

High Court blow to Notts plan to split from national union

Rebel miners must ballot

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Correspondent

The breakaway Nottinghamshire miners' union leaders were forced yesterday to give a High Court undertaking not to leave the national union without holding a ballot.

The court hearing confirmed that the area union rules specify that no changes to its rule book can be made unless a two-thirds majority of the area membership votes for them in a secret ballot.

The Nottinghamshire union could leave the national union on a simple majority by ballot to amalgamate with another union.

Mr Roy Lynd, the Nottinghamshire area general secretary, who claimed at the weekend that Saturday's area

from changing its rules without securing the two-thirds majority required under the area rulebook.

There are many references to the national union in the existing area rulebook, and it appears that it is not possible to leave the national union without deleting all references to it. The rulebook, for instance, refers to subscriptions to the national union, sending delegates to the national executive, and the fact that the area union is a constituent part of the national union.

Ironically, the rule (number 24d) stipulating that the area rules can be changed only with the approval of a two-thirds majority in a secret ballot was inserted only last December by Mr Lynd and his supporters. Previously rules were changed by a two-thirds majority of the area council on card votes at special annual meetings held every December. The safeguard of a secret membership ballot was inserted to protect the union from manipulation by area council activists.

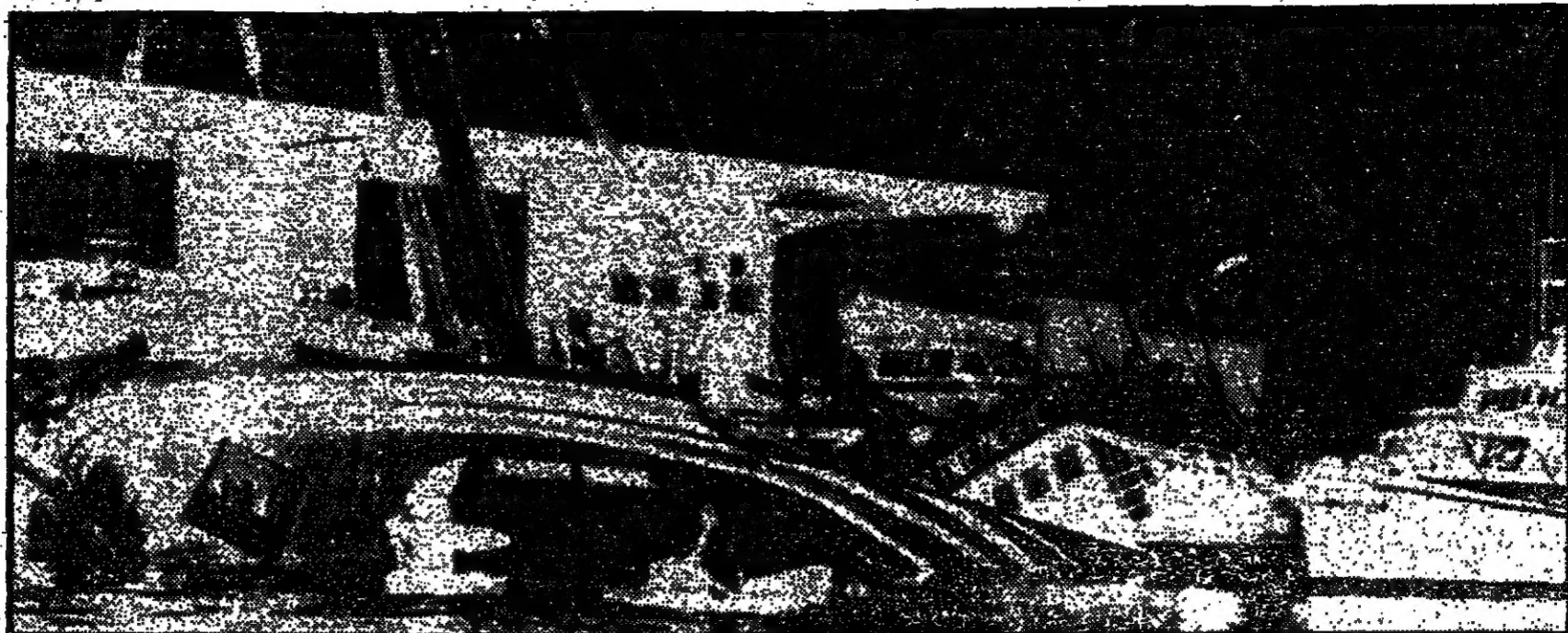
Mr Richardson said after the three-hour hearing yesterday: "Notts has undertaken not to change any of its rules without a proper ballot. In essence, we are happy with that. He said it did not matter if Mr Lynd's supporters had, in a sense, won a ballot to change the rules, since they have never argued that they cannot break away from the national union, so do it the correct way."

Mr Lynd said after the hearing that he and his supporters thought they had received a sufficient mandate to leave the national union when the area membership voted in May by 15,157 votes to 5,531 to reject proposed national union rule changes, even if it meant having to leave the national union. He thought that leaving the national union when the area membership voted in May by 15,157 votes to 5,531 to reject proposed national union rule changes, even if it meant having to leave the national union.

He went on: "As far as I am concerned, we are not subject to, and will not obey, the national union. This has been made clear to the judge, and the undertaking had been given to the judge on that basis."

However, lawyers representing Mr Richardson said that

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The Rainbow Warrior lies severely damaged in Auckland Harbour as police and naval divers try to find out what caused the explosions

'Saboteurs' sink Greenpeace campaign ship

By Paul Brown

Two explosions sank the Greenpeace flagship, the Rainbow Warrior, in New Zealand's Auckland Harbour yesterday, killing one of the crew.

The explosions, which were 60 seconds apart, blew a hole in the stern and she sank within minutes. Only the bow lines attached to the harbour wall prevented the ship from disappearing below the surface.

Both New Zealand police and Greenpeace believe that saboteurs were responsible. The ship which was to have led a New Zealand flotilla to disrupt French nuclear tests, had no explosive substances on board.

The New Zealand police said: "Sabotage seems the most likely explanation and we are working on that suspicion."

After the explosion at 11.45

pm, the British engineer, Mr David Edwards, ran down from the messroom into the engine room, but found the water already above the engines.

Mr Fernando Pereira, the Portuguese Greenpeace photographer, and deckhand, Mr Martin Botje, from the Netherlands, went to check the rear crew quarters when Captain Peter Willcox gave the order to abandon ship.

A second explosion blew some of the crew into the water before they could scramble to safety. The body of Mr Pereira, aged 35, was later found by New Zealand Navy divers in the wreckage.

Later, Mr Willcox, an American, said that a "massive explosion" had hit his ship. Most of the crew scrambled to safety before a second explosion, also in the stern.

At first one of the women crew members was also be-



Mr Fernando Pereira — divers found body

lieved missing but had gone for a walk and returned later. The ship, a 30-year-old former North Sea government

fisheries research vessel, was powered by diesel engines and sails. It had nothing on board which could have caused the explosions.

The Rainbow Warrior, which underwent a refit in the autumn and had masts and sails fitted at a cost of £100,000, had been at anchor since arriving at Auckland on Sunday. Only a two horse-power harbour generator was operating in the engine room at the time of the explosion.

Mr Willcox described the Rainbow Warrior as a particularly well found ship. She was built in Aberdeen to withstand Icelandic storms and never "let an ounce of water seep in anywhere."

She was on a Pacific voyage lasting several months. The crew were resting in New Zealand before sailing to Mururoa Atoll in the Pacific to try to disrupt the French tests. They

were to have led a protest flotilla of New Zealand ships.

Mr Bryn Jones, UK chairman of Greenpeace, said in London last night: "All the people who want to kill, pollute and destroy the environment are our enemies but I do not have the slightest notion who would do this to us."

"All our actions are peaceful direct actions. They never endanger life and are aimed at protecting the environment." He said that Greenpeace had never had threats from terrorist organisations.

Most of the crew are veterans of British campaigns against Sellafield or the Mont Louis sinking last year. The British was Mr Edwards from Rotherham, Yorkshire. Grace O'Sullivan, aged 23, the 1982 Irish surfing champion, was also on board as a deckhand.

Whaling rebels risk boycott, page 4.

Flat rate offer likely to low-paid teachers

By Andrew Moncrieff, Education Staff

A flat rate rise favouring lower-paid teachers, who would stand to gain about 10 per cent, expected to be offered at today's last-ditch talks aimed at settling the present dispute.

Senior staff and head teachers are likely to regard such a deal as nothing short of betrayal.

Just over 251,000 teachers — 61 per cent of the teaching force — are on either Scale 1 (average salary £7,687) or Scale 2 (average £9,030), the bottom rungs of the pay ladder.

A flat rate rise would again worsen the differentials of head teachers, who would find such an offer "totally and utterly unacceptable," according to Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers.

He said yesterday: "We have not gone through months of trying to run the schools system in the light of indus-

Appraisal backed, page 3

trial action to then be let down by the employers skewing any offer towards the lower paid."

A flat rate offer is one of the few negotiating cards still held by the local authority employers, who enter today's Burnham Committee talks believing that it is their last chance to resolve the pay dispute before the autumn. They protested yesterday that their already weak position had been undermined by intervention from Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary.

He again made it clear that there was no more money to meet the cost of a settlement, and repeated his ruling preventing any phased or end-loaded rise being carried over into next year's budgets.

The employers, seeking an interim settlement, will make an improved offer today, acknowledging that the 5 per cent on the table is inadequate.

Six per cent, offered heavily in favour of the lowest-paid, they will argue, is the best that they can manage in the face of the Government's penalties on overspending.

The rise for lower scale teachers would be similar to the increase offered to junior college lecturers who, the management estimates, could gain 0.2 per cent at the end of the year from the package of proposals put to the union side at last Friday's meeting of the Burnham further education committee. The overall cost of this phased package would be 5.5 per cent in a full year.

Reagan surgery

From Michael White in Washington

President Reagan is to undergo minor surgery tomorrow to remove a benign polyp in his colon.

His spokesman, Mr Larry Speakes, reassured reporters that the surgery at the Bethesda Naval Hospital, Washington, would not be an operation and that a general anaesthetic would not be used.

Mr Reagan, aged 74, will remain in the hospital overnight. Mr Reagan, who is usually reported as being in exceptional health for a man of his age, had a polyp removed last year. The new polyp was discovered in March and as a precaution, he went on a diet which reduced his red meat intake.

Lawson renews hope of tax cuts

By James Naughtie and Alan Travis

The Government provoked a furor yesterday when it announced that it was changing immigration rules to comply with a European court judgment by tightening the restrictions on the immigration of female spouses to Britain.

The Government had been accused by the European Court of Human Rights of being in violation of sex discrimination laws by imposing stricter immigration rules against the male spouses of women residents in Britain than female spouses of men.

Instead of slackening the rules enabling more women to bring husbands to Britain the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, announced that changes to the immigration rules would be laid to ensure sexual equality by tightening the rules for women seeking to join their husbands in Britain.

The move was condemned by the Opposition parties and the

Brittan tightens immigration to beat discrimination ruling

By Colin Brown

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants warned that the changes would not comply with the European judgment. It said it would take another complaint to the European court.

Mr Brittan insisted that the changes would enable the Government to comply with the judgment "in a way that preserves the firm and fair immigration control to which the Government remains fully committed."

The changes will remove the bar on women bringing their husbands to Britain and may thus enable an extra 2,000 men a year to enter the country. They will be subject to control to prove that they are not part of an arranged marriage for immigration purposes, a check which has caused criticism on the ground that it created unwarranted indignity for immigrant couples.

However, in a tightening of the rules women will undergo the same procedures. That

could involve checks on 17,000 women a year.

The announcement in a Commons written answer, provoked protests from MPs, led by the shadow home secretary, Mr Gerald Kaufman, who accused Mr Brittan of trying to avoid questioning in the House.

The Liberal leader, Mr David Steel, later condemned the Government for "supporting an equality of misery and discrimination in order to avoid the charge of sex discrimination. It made the rules harsher and strengthened his party's commitment to changing the primary legislation, the 1981 Nationality Act."

Mr Robert MacLennan, the SDP's spokesman, said the Government was trying to avoid sexual discrimination by maintaining "a base attack of family life" which was plainly a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The changes will be strongly opposed by the Opposition parties after they are laid before Parliament on July 15.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Newham verdicts

FOUR Asians and three whites were found guilty at the Old Bailey yesterday on charges arising from a racial clash in Newham, east London, last year. Report back page 1. Newham, powder keg waiting to blow, page 21.

Recorder found

THE voice recorder from the crashed Air India plane was recovered yesterday. Back page.

Serps critic

THE government's benefit watchdog is to advise it not to abolish Serps. Page 4.

Oil price fear

KUWAIT's oil minister and British officials were trying yesterday to avert a price collapse after Saudi Arabia said it intended to almost double its production. Report and City Notebook, page 23.

The weather

MAINLY dry, with some sun. Details, back page.

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"I'm conducting an opinion poll on the Brecon and Radnor by-election and wondered if you can tell me how you intend to vote?"

Israeli terrorists

FIFTEEN Jewish settlers were convicted yesterday of terrorist offences against Arabs. Page 7.

Legion 'secret'

THE Stafford area health manager did not know about a discovery of legionella bacteria until victims of a later strain had died. Page 4.

Tutu in rescue

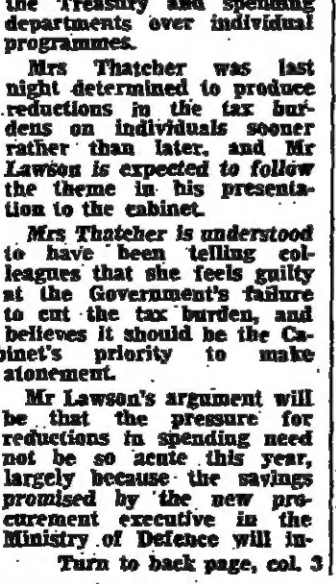
BISHOP Desmond Tutu saved the life of a suspected police informer being attacked near Johannesburg yesterday. Page 8.

Arms men gaoled

FOUR men in the conspiracy to send military parts to South Africa were gaoled yesterday. Page 4.

Interest hope

THE pound hit \$1.40 at one time yesterday, drawing speculation of a forced interest rate cut. Shares lost \$1.9 billion. Back page: City Notebook, page 23.



Norman Lamont: refused to comment

who had been told that the minister's bruised countenance had come about either because of a collision with a filing cabinet, or because a research assistant had closed a door in his face.

A spokesman at the Department of Trade and Industry said that there had been an incident, but it was very minor and no statement was planned. Asked as he left home yesterday whether he had been in the home of Mrs Olga Polizzi in Bayswater just before the incident, Mr Lamont said: "Go away. Leave me alone."

Mr Connolly, a long-standing companion of Mrs Polizzi, said: "I'm not saying any more. That's the end of it."

Unfortunately, for Mr Lamont, it was not the end of it. MPs relaxing in the balmy summer air at Westminster found it a more appealing sub-

Israeli jets bomb Palestinian bases in 'routine' operation

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

Israeli aircraft yesterday attacked three Palestinian guerrilla bases in the Tripoli area of northern Lebanon. Officials said the operation was not connected to the suicide car bomb attacks on Israeli-backed militia forces in the south of the country on Tuesday.

Two of the bases were in the Nahr al Barud area, some five miles northeast of Tripoli and served as headquarters for the rebel Syrian-backed Abu Musa faction of the PLO

which is opposed to Mr Yassar Arafat's leadership of the organisation.

Israeli military sources said the third base attacked, closer to Tripoli, was used by General

Such attacks are routine events and Israeli officials say they will continue to choose the time and the place to attack such targets.

The Christian Voice of Leba-

non radio station reported last night that several senior guerrilla commanders had been killed in the air raids. There was no confirmation from any other source.

Western reporters in Tripoli saw the planes release scarlet smoke and saw the missiles unleashed from the Baddawi camp, which sustained at least two rocket hits.

It was the seventh Israeli air strike in Lebanon this year and the first since April 17 when Israeli planes attacked a Palestinian base near Barr Elias in the Bekaa valley.



Brittan warns of £2,000 fines from next year

Computer users who hold data on individuals must register

By Gareth Parry

Computer users who hold information about individuals in their data banks will have six months from November 11 to register with the Data Protection Registrar, the Home Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, announced yesterday. Registration will be for three years at a time, and will cost £30.

Those failing to register who hold or process personal data will face fines of up to £2,000 on summary conviction, and unlimited fines on indictment.

The announcement, in a written reply to a parliamentary question, coincides with the publication of the first report to parliament by registrar, Mr. Eric Howe, the computer ombudsman, who says he has received 11 complaints from individuals about the use of personal data in computing systems.

The provisions of the new law are being phased in over a three-year period. The first, which came into force last September, gave individuals the right to compensation in certain circumstances if they could prove damage.

The phasing-in period will end on November 11, 1987, when the data protection principles, including the right for people to examine information about themselves held on computer systems, will become enforceable.

Mr. Howe said yesterday:

"The act is concerned with personal information in computer systems, and creates both rights for individuals and some obligations for data-users. Its effects will be positive: it will raise standards within computing organisations, and raise public confidence."

"Data-users will have to be open about the personal information they hold, where they get it from, who they give it to, if they transfer it overseas, and what they use it for."

"That openness will be achieved with them having to register with my organisation and by us publishing the register through public libraries, so that any individual will be able to walk in off the street and find out which organisations hold personal information, and what they are actually doing with it."

Estimates of the number of registrations to be returned in the six months from November 11, 1985, range from 200,000 and 600,000, depending on factors such as multiple registrations by larger organisations with a number of divisions.

Mr. Howe said he had consulted a wide range of representative organisations, including trade associations, professional bodies, and other interested groups.

Mr. Howe said it was too early, and examples were too few, to draw conclusions from the 11 complaints he has dealt with so far from his office in Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Although it is hoped that the register available in main public libraries might be in microfilm form, it may be necessary to provide access via terminals linked to a computer system because of the volume of data.

The Data Protection Bill had undergone several important changes in key areas since it began its passage through parliament after the re-election of the Government, which has accepted the force of arguments put forward by critics of the legislation.

The operation of the act, and the performance of the registrar, will nevertheless be closely monitored by watchdog groups, notably the National Council for Civil Liberties.

Eric Howe: 11 complaints so far

TUC chiefs see no easy answer to unemployment

By Jane McLoughlin, Industrial Relations Correspondent

Unemployment cannot now be reduced substantially or rapidly, the TUC economic committee acknowledged yesterday. The committee accepted an economic review which could become official TUC policy if ratified at the congress in September.

The review accepts that unemployment could grow to four or five million unless the economy expands. Rather than seek instant answers, it says, industry must be rebuilt with investment in research and development, high technology and training to bridge the gap between Britain and her competitors.

This emphasis on long-term measures suggests a tacit acknowledgement that if a Labour government wins the next election, it, too, will not be able to reduce unemployment at a stroke.

Fast work in the fast lane gets M1 reopened early

By John Ardill, Environment Correspondent

The M1 is back to three lanes around junction 3 today after resurfacing work on a 200 yard section was completed five days ahead of schedule.

After warnings of possible 20 mile tailbacks during the work on Britain's second busiest stretch of motorway, traffic dropped by 35 per cent and there were only 14 bumps—without injury—in the bottleneck. Traffic flows were creeping up again yesterday but the Transport Minister, Mrs. Lynda Chalker, promised after visiting the site "there will be no jam tomorrow."

The standard of driving was exemplary, she said. "The only

real concern we had was on Sunday when we had a lot of breakdowns of cars which are not used regularly and people did not bother to check them before they went on the road. There's a tremendous lesson in that."

The contractors Balfour Beatty will get a £200,000 bonus for completing the job in only nine days.

British Rail, which provided extra trains on Midland routes, picked up an extra 15 per cent of business, the Transport Department said. National Express which runs more than three developing routes through the junction 3 section said average delays were 10 to 15 minutes and the maximum hold-up 45 minutes.

Nissan calls many but chooses few

By Peter Hetherington

THE young personnel manager observing six job applicants grappling with electrical circuits in the college lecture room, says there has never been a recruitment programme like it. "This is the most sophisticated procedure ever adopted by a company in Britain."

Nissan has brought another group of hopefuls, already screened by the Japanese company in a preliminary interview, to Newcastle College of Further Education in Sunderland for three-hour tests in mechanical comprehension.

If applicants satisfy the college examiner and Nissan officials, tests in verbal reasoning and numeracy lie ahead, followed by a complex group exercise, a personality assessment paper, and a final interview.

The six-stage process takes about seven hours and few candidates will quibble with the cautionary note on Nissan recruitment advertisements: "Very few people will reach our standards."

It is more like a pre-entry programme for budding army officers with many tests devised by occupational psychologists.

The company, which will start building cars at its assembly plant near Sunderland in a year, wants the best in an area where one man in 10 is unemployed. Many jobless men will apply. Few are likely to make the grade.

Nissan, which will initially employ 470 workers turning out 24,000 cars a year from imported kits, will have taken on 103 staff by the end of this month.

Many senior positions, from the three United Kingdom directors of the company's British subsidiary, to the 18 managers below them, have been filled from car



PLANT LIFE: Construction men at work on the Japanese factory near Sunderland where competition is fierce for the 470 jobs assembling car kits, starting next year.

makers like Austin Rover through the assessment programme.

This week potential maintenance engineers, who will keep the plant in working order and attend to major breakdowns, are being assessed. Other applicants have had "dexterity testing", which includes stripping part of a car and re-assembling it in a given time.

Soon Nissan will begin looking for more than 300 shop floor workers with the title of "manufacturing staff" — recognition that employees will have equal conditions, with no segregation between white and blue-collar workers and no clock-in-out time.

At least a quarter of the workforce will spend about two months of intensive training at Nissan's Oppama plant at Yokohama, Japan. The induction period is said to be tough.

Early next year the company begins more detailed talks with the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which has the sole right to represent employees.

Nissan will be looking for a minimum two-year contract with the union, covering wages and conditions. There will be no shop stewards or works conveners and workers will not be pressed to join the AUEW.

The company will organise elections to a works council and non-union members will be allowed to sit on it.

Picture by Allan Glenwright

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Bus strike threatened

By Alan Dunn

Liverpool's Labour leaders remained defiant last night despite the council treasurer's reminder that insolvency lay ahead unless steps were taken to cut the projected budget deficit of £11.7 million.

Mr. Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, said in the Commons: "It is high time that the city set about putting its house in order and was not forever standing with its hands outstretched asking for more money. I hope the city council will take the step which still remains within its power to set its house in order."

He told Mr. David Alton the Liberal MP for Macclesfield: "I have no powers to send in commissioners to run the city."

Mr. Bill Norris, national bus secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said afterwards that the unions would be delegating a conference of busmen to the city to hear the company's response.

Mr. Don Wilson, NBC's director for personnel services, said last night that NBC's local companies would inherit the present national agreements. It would then be up to the local unions to negotiate variations.

Man charged with dustbin murder

A SCHOOL caretaker was charged last night with murdering nine-year-old Sarah Morris whose body was found in a dustbin at Glastenbury primary school, Morden, London, a short distance from her home.

Leah Grange, aged 53, of Hartland Road, Morden, will appear before Wallington magistrates in Surrey, today.

Short takes initiative

NIGEL SHORT, the 20-year-old British chess champion, adjourned last night in a critical seventh round match against Petrosian of Iceland, at the world chess interzonal.

Short, ninth in the overall standings at Biel, declared his intention to continue to play for a win in a bid to catch the leading group.

Lord Spencer sells pictures

THE Princess of Wales's father, Lord Spencer, who has been steadily selling items from his family home to the dismay of conservationists, sold another five pictures at Sotheby's yesterday.

One, a painting of the first Duchess of Marlborough's dogs by John Wootton, fetched £143,000. The other four made a total of £25,740.

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE

Austria 26 pence Greece 100 pence Belgium 20 pence Holland 2,500 guilder Denmark 20 pence Italy 2,500 guilder France 20 pence Spain 170 pence Germany 3,50 pence Switzerland 3 franc

Liverpool leaders refuse to cut budget despite treasurer's warning of insolvency

By Alan Dunn

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I hope that members of the city council will recognise from what has been said on this side of the House that the council's patience is running very short."

He did not say what further action the Government was planning.

Mr. Allan Roberts the Labour MP for Bootle, said that the council leader, Mr. John Hamilton, a retired teacher, was being "turned into a law breaker because he wants to defend services to the elderly, disabled, and children of Liverpool."

Mr. Jenkin said that if Mr. Hamilton or any other councillor went outside the law it was their own decision, not the Government's.

In a comment on the decision by the district auditor to send notices of debts totalling £106,000 to 49 Labour councillors, he added: "The law will take its course as the district auditor's proceedings go through the normal process."

The council was sending another request yesterday to Mr. Jenkin for talks on financing its deficit budget and the inner city partnership. It was part of a package of moves agreed by the finance and strategy committee to see the city through a new war of nerves with the Government.

Mr. Michael Reddington, the city treasurer, told the committee that unless action was taken the council would become insolvent, with all the consequences for the provision of services and for employers, suppliers, and other creditors that will naturally follow."

The situation was aggravated by the parallel need to raise £137 million to fund maturing loans and capital commitments.

The committee agreed an emergency package that included guaranteeing borrowing to fund essential services, capital programmes, and staff pay.

Mr. Tony Byrne, the finance chairman, and his deputy, will now vet all spending, including that normally agreed by chief officers.

Mr. Byrne pledged that Labour would never raise rates, rents, and other charges to compensate for government cuts in grants. Labour remained committed, he said, to the defence of jobs and services and its urban regeneration programme.

But the life of parliament is full of gentle evolutions. Once, Prime Minister's question time was conducted on the basis of questions tabled before the day, with the chance of a rise in the morning's headlines effectively excluded. Gradually MPs found a way round that, by tabling questions asking the Prime Minister to account for her movements during the day and then linking their various urgent and immediate concerns to the programme thus revealed.

In much the same way, the bogus point of order flourishes as it does partly because it enables MPs to raise issues which the customary rules of order fail to provide for: skulking evasions by Home Secretaries, for instance.

Where evolutionists would therefore oppose any attempt to stifle the bogus point of order, instead, they would seek to recognise it as a necessary ingredient in the standard parliamentary day.

Perhaps the best course would be to be entirely frank about it, and to admit the bogus point of order to the catalogue of accepted Parliamentary proceedings.

There might even be 10 minutes or so set aside for bogus points of order between prayers and question time at the beginning of each Commons day.

But, in return, MPs would be required to be entirely honest about what they were up to. "On a bogus point of order," Mr. Speaker would say, "I commend this proposal to the Select Committee on Procedure."

One shouldn't, incidentally, disguise the written answer, humble and cowering though it often is, altogether. Lord Shinwell, addressing the committee yesterday during the committee stage of the Transport Bill, revealed that he keeps a stack of things, from both Lords and Commons, by his bed.

He suffers from insomnia, and they sometimes help him to get to sleep.

THE shadow home secretary, Gerald Kaufman, yesterday raised with the Speaker, on a point of order, the decision of the Home Secretary to announce changes in the immigration rules not in a statement to the House, so that MPs could have questioned him, but under the counter, as it were, in a written Commons answer.

This was not a point of order. Few of them ever are. Indeed, the rate of illegitimacy among points of order nowadays must rapidly be approaching that of the rate for the community as a whole.

Just occasionally, glowing in its innocence and purity like an orchid in a slag heap, a genuine point of order appears. There has been an offence against the procedures of the House. There is action open to the Speaker to condemn what has happened and possibly to grant redress.

This is not at all the case. There is nothing a Speaker can do — apart, perhaps, from cutting the banner next time or the pace in the street — when ministers smuggle out important decisions through the least public and visible channel that is open to them.

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This is not at all the case. There is nothing a Speaker can do — apart, perhaps, from cutting the banner next time or the pace in the street — when ministers smuggle out important decisions through the least public and visible channel that is open to them.

But the life of parliament is full of gentle evolutions. Once, Prime Minister's question time was conducted on the basis of questions tabled before the day, with the chance of a rise in the morning's headlines effectively excluded. Gradually MPs found a way round that, by tabling questions asking the Prime Minister to account for her movements during the day and then linking their various urgent and immediate concerns to the programme thus revealed.

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Where evolutionists would therefore oppose any attempt to stifle the bogus point of order, instead, they would seek to recognise it as a necessary ingredient in the standard parliamentary day.

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Bradford victims prepare test case

By Malcolm Piters

Bereaved families and surviving victims of the Bradford fire disaster are to attempt a test case for compensation in the High Court.

The case will be heard in either London or Leeds later this year, and will almost certainly be against Bradford City Football Club and other parties. No announcement was made yesterday as to who will eventually be served with a writ, but it is understood that the football club will not be the sole defendant.

Yesterday 45 solicitors representing 120 claimants met in Bradford city hall to discuss legal action. Mr Justice Popplewell's inquiry report, or at least an interim one, will be handed to the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, next week.

Many of the judge's recommendations will almost certainly be brought into effect immediately so that the regulations governing football club safety will be up-dated for the coming season.

If liability is proved against either the club or other defendants, compensation claims can be dealt with without further hearings.

The club is thought to be insured for £8 million, but this figure may depend on the circumstances of the claims.

After yesterday's meeting the solicitors issued a joint statement explaining that a test case would have to be heard.

They explained that they were taking co-ordinated action to eliminate duplication of work and thereby reduce the overall expense involved.

They say they also wanted to facilitate the settlement of any compensation for the victims' dependants.

A co-ordinating committee of solicitors has also been established and they are anxious to hear from people who may have a claim.

A test case would probably involve at least two victims. A writ would be issued in the normal way and then legal proceedings commenced in the High Court.

The chairman of Bradford City, Mr Stafford Heathcote, and Mr Geoff Lawler, the Conservative MP for Bradford North, are to meet Mr Neil Macfarlane, the sports minister, next Wednesday to discuss in private the special needs of the club.

Irish-Americans try apartheid approach

Firms in Northern Ireland coming under pressure, Michael White reports from Washington

IRISH REPUBLICAN activists in the United States have seized upon the nationwide successes of the anti-apartheid campaign to mount an attempt to force American companies operating in Northern Ireland to pledge not to discriminate against Catholic employees.

They have devised a code of conduct entitled the MacBride principles, modelled on the anti-apartheid Sullivan principles and named after the veteran Irish diplomat and Nobel prize winner, Sean MacBride.

US companies with an estimated 15,000 employees in Northern Ireland, including

Ford, General Motors, DuPont and Gallaghers cigarettes, would be required to take active steps to prevent future discrimination, not just in employment practices but such areas as lay-offs and training.

The campaign has rattled British diplomats although no state has yet passed a law putting local firms under this obligation and prospects for federal legislation are slim.

The Northern Ireland Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, last week announced measures to eradicate vestigial

discrimination in housing, education and jobs. British officials deny this was intended to impress American opinion.

Father Sean McManus, the director of the caucus, denies that his campaign aims to discourage US investment while insisting that the British Government's own figures prove continuing discrimination against Catholics in Ulster.

Two years ago the caucus nearly prevented Short Brothers of Belfast from winning a United States Air Force contract. Shorts has

now taken over the De Lorean car plant in Catholic West Belfast. The caucus is telling congressmen that Shorts' record has worsened this year despite British pledges.

Father McManus describes shareholder pressure among those sympathetic to the Republican cause as a trump card. Some of the bills which have been introduced in state legislatures in New York and Connecticut have proposed disinvestment if firms do not obey the MacBride code.

Father McManus says that

his action would not mean inverse discrimination "or the sacking of a single Protestant." It would exclude provocative religious or political symbols at work, require public advertising of jobs, special efforts to recruit "under-represented minorities" and a management appointment to supervise it all.

In the bitter propaganda war directed at Irish-Americans who may be tempted to support the aims of the Provisional IRA, British sources point to a 1978 speech of Dr Garrett FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, linking the

Irish national caucus with Noraid as being "profoundly unhelpful" to the cause of Irish unity. Father McManus is accused of overt IRA sympathies.

Given the controversial character of the caucus and Republican allies one surprise is that the bill due to be introduced shortly into the House of Representatives will be sponsored by Mr Hamilton Fish, a member of one of New York's oldest and most respectable Republican families. Mr Fish's respectability notwithstanding, the Irish lobby can muster only about 25 per cent support on Ulster issues.

Blood pressure treatment ruled out

By Andrew Veitch, Medical Correspondent

Mass treatment for a million people with slightly high blood pressure has been ruled out because of cost and serious possible side effects.

A trial carried out by the Medical Research Council has shown that lifelong drug treatment might prevent 1,000 strokes a year, but at a cost of £250 million a year and with serious side effects suffered by one in 20 patients. The drugs make many men impotent.

The MRC spent £4.5 million and 12 years finding out whether drugs could prevent heart attacks and strokes among people who are not suffering symptoms but have mild to moderately raised blood pressure (hypertension), defined as a diastolic pressure of 90-109.

Led by Sir Stanley Peart, professor of medicine at Queen Mary's Hospital, London, and working with GPs from 170 group practices, they screened half a million people and assessed more than 17,000 men and women aged 35-64.

The results are being published in tomorrow's British medical journal.

Sir Stanley's team found that drugs do not prevent heart attacks, but they slightly reduce the number of strokes. If 850 patients with mild hypertension take the drugs for one year, one stroke will be prevented.

With a million people at risk, 1,000 strokes a year might be prevented. That would not justify the cost of mass treatment, the team concludes.

Two drugs were used, ICT's beta-blocker propranolol, marketed as Inderal, and the diuretic bendroflumazide. One in 20 of the patients withdrew from the trial because of the side effects. These include gout, diabetes, impotence, cold hands, dizziness, nausea, headaches, and lethargy.

About 4,500 men were given drugs and 120 of them suffered erectile impotence, but the effect wore off six weeks after stopping the drugs.

Dr Tony Lever, director of the MRC's blood pressure unit, said: "It is probably worth treating men with higher blood pressure who don't smoke. It is not worth treating men who smoke because of the effect of the drug is wiped out."

School appraisal should cover heads, says study

By Andrew Moneur, Education Staff

A national appraisal system for teachers, could strongly enhance the quality of education, according to the report of a Suffolk research team published yesterday.

The system should cover classroom performance, the work of head teachers and senior officials, says the team, implying the need for a radical review of the entire education system.

But the research project, funded with £52,000 from the Department of Education, came down strongly against the idea of merit pay.

The likely impact would be divisions in the staffroom and impossible demands from parents insisting that their children should only be taught by "superior" teachers, says the report.

Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, is eager to provide extra pay for the best teachers on merit and for those working in subjects which suffer from a shortage of specialist staff.

He has made it clear that he is prepared to legislate to

bring in an appraisal system unless unions and employers can agree terms for a scheme between themselves.

Sir Keith said of the report: "This is an important contribution to the current debate and activity on teacher appraisal. I very much hope that the employers and teachers will now see their way to agreeing to get this project, which I had hoped would have begun in April, off the ground."

Rejecting the concept of merit pay, yesterday's report says: "We have concluded that the necessary conditions for success do not currently exist in England and Wales."

"Teachers manifestly believe their base salaries to be low, some believe their working conditions to be poor."

The criteria for determining a factual base for assessing classroom performance and total contribution to the school community are largely undeveloped and exceedingly difficult to construct, says the report.

In these circumstances the introduction of merit pay for a sceptical and organised teach-

ing force might, we suspect, be self-defeating.

The six-strong team, led by Mr Duncan Graham, Suffolk's education officer, and including three head teachers, says that its disquiet about merit payments has been confirmed by visits to United States Department of Defence schools in Europe.

In the United States, the same concept had caused dissent and controversy and most merit payment schemes had been dropped as unworkable.

The report suggests that money should not be the only motivation for a caring profession. Other options should be explored, including sabbatical leave fellowships.

The report says that an appraisal scheme could be based on national guidelines, with local variations, which would be drawn up after the fullest consultation between the DES, education authorities and the teacher unions.

The system should apply to all personnel in the education service, with senior staff, at a new level of "promoted head," appraising the performance of other head teachers.

Friday deadline for health cut rebels

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

A team of regional health authority members and officials are due on Friday to review the position of the West Lambeth health authority which has refused to set a legal budget because it would hit services.

Mr Peter Le Fleming, regional general manager of the South-east Thames regional

health authority, said yesterday that he hoped West Lambeth officials would set a legal budget and save £1 million next week.

Otherwise the regional health authority would have to take direct control of the authority's finances and dismiss the authority's members.

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's social services spokes-

man, and Mr Stuart Holland, Labour MP for Lambeth, Vauxhall, have said any dismissals would be scandalous.

Both MPs are seeking a meeting with Mr Kenneth Clarke, the health minister, to urge him not to remove members and to give the authority, which faces cuts of up to £18 million by 1993, extra cash to avoid closing more hospital beds or closing St Thomas's hospital medical school.



SPLASH OF SOUND—Royal Philharmonic Orchestra musicians Stephen Williams (left), Jo Atkins and Gill White rehearsing Handel's Water Music in the Thames yesterday. The orchestra will celebrate the 300th anniversary of Handel's birth and the 400th anniversary of the City of Westminster with music and fireworks on the banks of the Serpentine Picture by Garry Weaser

Snip, snip, snip,

snip.

A few appreciative words about electric water heating from Martin and Guy of Cheltenham.

Few people are more reliant on hot water than hair stylists. When you've ninety heads of hair to wash on a Saturday, you have to be sure of the supply and certain of the temperature. So when Martin Green and Guy MacDonald moved into the centre of Cheltenham and upgraded their business, they plumped for electric storage water heating.

THE CHEAPEST OPTION.

"We looked at other options, but they were more expensive," said Martin, "the installation costs

were in every case too high."

Speed of installation was also essential as the partners wanted their new salon, Manes, to be open as quickly as possible.

They settled for two 210-litre factory insulated cylinders controlled by time switches and thermostats.

Enough to guarantee them all the hot water they needed.

OVERNIGHT SAVINGS.

Now each morning when the salon opens there's hot water on tap produced overnight with the

full benefit of cheap night rate electricity.

An important factor when you're building up a new business and have to count pennies as well as heads.

"It's really cheap," said Guy, who found that even with the new larger premises running costs worked out less than 2p per wash.

As Martin and Guy can confirm, electric storage water heating is quite a snip.

For more information on how electric storage water heating could help keep you out of hot water, phone Freefone BuildElectric or snip the coupon.

To Electricity Publications, PO Box 2, Feltham, Middlesex TW4 0TG. I would like more information on electric water heating and equipment supplied by these manufacturers:

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Position _____
Company/Address _____
Post Code _____ Tel _____

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The Electricians' Union, England and Wales.

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Plot was extensive, profitable and well organised, says judge

Four gaoled for smuggling arms to South Africa

By David Pallister

Four men were gaoled yesterday for conspiracy to smuggle military components to South Africa. One of the ringleaders, Michael Gardiner, 56, was sentenced to 15 months and fined £100,000.

The judge, Mr Justice Mars Jones said Gardiner had been engaged in protracted defiance of the law. The conspiracy to export high technology parts for guided missiles as well as aircraft, spares and artillery gun sight gears as "an extensive, profitable and well-organised operation."

Gardiner's partner, Derek Salt, aged 61, a prominent County businessman received 10 months and was fined £25,000. Malcolm Bird, aged 49, a works manager involved in the manufacture of parts for detectors was sentenced to three months with two suspended.

The same sentence was given to Michael Swann, aged 34, who acquired parts for Buccaneer bombers, some of them from the big aerospace and defence contractors, the Dowty Group.

A fifth man, Henry Coles, aged 72, who acted as South Africa's agent in shipping the aircraft parts, was fined £2,500. The Anti-Apartheid Movement said yesterday that the result of the trial was "an important setback for the south Africans in their efforts to break the arms embargo."

pointed out that four South Africans involved, who were arrested last year and then granted bail, had evaded justice.

"We trust that the British Government will now act in the light of the court's decision that there was conclusive evidence of a major South African conspiracy involving the systematic breaking of British law."

The trial, heard that the Buccaneers parts were easily acquired, said that the court had evidence of a major South African conspiracy involving the systematic breaking of British law.

However, the Buccaneers are known only to be in service in two British squadrons and with the South African Air Force. Mr Derek James, Dowty's press officer, said yesterday: "We were not to know if the customer was honest or not. The customs advised us last year that we should take particular care to watch this sort of thing in future and that we are doing."

The American customs are investigating the US end of the conspiracy, which provided infra red detectors, coolers and radar jammers for South Africa. They want to question the British businessmen's agent, Mr Joseph Amundsen, who owes money to the three American suppliers.

Policewomen forced out of Loyalist area

From Bob Redwell in Belfast

Two young policewomen have been forced out of the house they shared on a Loyalist estate at Cookstown, Co Tyrone, by Loyalists angered by the RUC's ban on a Protestant parade through a Catholic neighbourhood nearly two weeks ago.

The house and car of a part-time police reservist on the same estate have also been attacked and damaged.

It followed the RUC's refusal to allow a Loyalist parade through the Catholic Gortelawry estate on June 28. Violence erupted between the police and the marchers, then at 1 am stone throwers smashed windows at the police-women's house.

After a similar attack at 3 am last Saturday they decided to leave, but a police reservist living nearby who had windows in his house and car smashed in the second attack, is staying put. The women have been rehoused by the RUC.

The attacks were condemned by the deputy leader of the Official Unionist Party, Mr Harold McCusker, an MP, who last week said that defiance by Orangemen of police attempts to re-route their traditional parades would "probably be worthwhile" even if death or injury resulted.

"I totally deplore and condemn attacks on the homes and property of police officers. For so-called Loyalists to engage in barbaric acts against



Harold McCusker: condemned action against police

the RUC, is inexcusable," he said.

Orange leaders in Portadown, Co Armagh, were meeting again last night to discuss the threat of eight rural lodges to march, as always, through the Catholic Obins Street, to the rendezvous for tomorrow's big "Twelfth" parade, the highlight of the Orangemen's year. The RUC is determined to stop them.

Local Orange leaders who would not accept re-routing have bowed to pressure from Orange Order headquarters and abandoned plans for a protest rally.

Instead, local Orangemen will travel by bus to Tandragee, eight miles away, where the main Co Armagh rally to commemorate King William's victory at the Boyne, is being held. The eight rural lodges vowing defiance are expected to back down.

Legionella not reported to official

By James Lewis

The discovery of legionella bacteria in a water-cooling tower at Stafford General Hospital in November was not known to the health manager until after an outbreak of legionnaire's disease six months later.

Mr James Bartlett, district general manager of the Mid-Staffordshire Health Authority, yesterday told the public inquiry that he would have expected the fact to be reported to the hospital administrator

and to the district medical officer, Dr John Scully. The epidemic, which cost up to 46 lives, was first noticed on the weekend of April 20. Mr Bartlett said, and was thought to be a type of influenza.

Three days later, with six dead and 15 critically ill, it was still thought to be influenza, and samples were sent to outside laboratories in an attempt to identify the type of virus involved.

One of the laboratories, in

Manchester, reported on May 2 that it had found two "positive responses" to the legionella bacteria but did not think the infection was recent. On that day, however, it was decided to include erythromycin, a specific treatment for Legionnaire's disease, routinely in the drug regime.

Mr Bartlett said the possibility of Legionnaire's disease was considered by the hospital's control-infection committee but was discounted because the patients involved —

then well over 100 — came from a wide area and seemed to have no common source of infection.

The next day, however, the Manchester laboratory reported the possibility of legionella in five samples. "It was now confirmed that there was an outbreak of the disease in the area," Mr Bartlett said.

The initiative of a group of junior medical staff at the hospital pointed to the hospital itself as the source of infection. They talked to patients

and examined their notes and found that many of them had visited the hospital — usually the out-patients' department — before they were taken ill.

The hospital's water supply was chlorinated, the cooling system switched off, and the epidemic began to abate.

Mr Bartlett said his authority stopped employing its own infection-control specialist just before the outbreak started because it could not afford the post.

Watchdog to warn against axing Serps

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

The government's benefit watchdog is to advise ministers to scrap plans to abolish the State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme (Serps) for 11 million people in 1987.

The Social Security Advisory Committee will also reserve judgement on the details of plans to change the housing benefit, supplementary benefit and family income supplement systems because of a failure to supply the public with figures.

The committee intends to support the Government's intentions to simplify and restructure housing benefit; abolish the family income supplement and create premiums for pensioners, families and the disabled at present on supplementary benefit.

Details of the committee's response to the green paper on social security are expected to be released in a public document at the end of August, two weeks before the final deadline for consultation.

The committee plans to emphasise its opposition to abolishing Serps, even though ministers have produced a proposal for phased abolition over 20 years.

If ministers insist on overriding the committee, it intends to lay down a series of safeguards which the committee feels necessary if a compulsory private pension scheme is to replace the state scheme. Mr Peter Barclay, chairman of the committee, told the Guardian yesterday that its report intended to balance its criticisms with an attempt to help ministers in reforming the benefit system.

"I think it is ridiculous, as some people claim, to say that one cannot comment on the benefit reforms in the green paper until we have the figures. Any figures would be illustrative and be out of date by April, 1987 when the new system comes into force."

Nevertheless, the absence of figures does mean that we cannot comment on the full effect of proposals to introduce a family income support scheme because we do not know the level of the new premiums, or on the details of housing benefit changes or the new family credit benefit.

"We will be able to comment on changes to the structure and the principles of the benefit system."

The committee will agree the details of its response in a series of meetings over the next few weeks. The report should be with ministers in August before publication.

The Commons Social Services Committee is planning to release a special report outlining its response to the social security reviews by the end of July.

The report will include the first figures on the reviews likely to be based on assumptions submitted by MPs and run through the Department of Health and Social Security computer.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nalگو tells staff to take 5.6pc

MORE than 600,000 local government staff are to be advised to accept a pay rise worth 5.6 per cent. All but 100,000 are members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, the industry's main staff union.

The employers have offered an increase of 5.25 per cent with £209 a year extra for employees aged over 21 and some restructuring of lower scales.

Queen Mother picks Baker

THE Queen Mother has chosen Richard Baker to present a programme on BBC Radio Four on August 4 to celebrate her 85th birthday. Entertainer she has selected for the show include Richard Murdoch, Roy Hudd, Jon Glover, Chris Egan and Jeffery Holland. There will be music by the BBC Concert Orchestra and tributes from Alistair Cooke and Brian Johnston.

Man bailed after animal rights raid

A 22-year-old Californian appeared before magistrates at Witney, Oxfordshire, yesterday accused of burglary at Oxford University's animal breeding centre at Northmoor, Oxfordshire.

Bernard Levinge who is staying at Ernest Road, Portsmouth, was bailed until August 23, ordered to surrender his passport and to report twice a week to police.

Court adjourns lugworm cases

MAGISTRATES yesterday adjourned for a month the cases against three anglers accused of disturbing, molesting or killing lugworm on Lindisfarne nature reserve, Northumberland.

Two intend to deny the charge but the other pleaded guilty by letter. The Nature Conservancy Council has banned bait-digging in some areas after a survey showed that four million worms had been removed in four months.

£247,500 screen

A screen painted by the Irish artist Richard Roper in 1759, was sold for £247,500 at Sotheby's in London yesterday to a Swiss collector. A cloud study by John Constable fetched £58,000.

Channel first

Timothy Dunsbee, aged 21, of Dover, yesterday became the first person to swim the English Channel, crossing from Shakespeare Beach, Dover, to Cap Gris Nez, in 9 hours 30 minutes.

Whaling rebels risk boycotts

By John Ardliff, Environment Correspondent

NATIONS planning to break the international moratorium on commercial whaling due to start this autumn were warned yesterday that Greenpeace would confront their whaling fleets and other conservation groups planned economic boycotts.

Governments and environmental groups will press the defiant countries which include the USSR, Japan, Norway, Iceland and South Korea to back down at the meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in Bournemouth next week. Sir Peter Scott, co-founder of the World Wildlife Fund and a member of the British delegation to the IWC, said yesterday that any breach would be condemned as "international whalingism."

Mr Stanley Johnson, vice-chairman of Wildlife Link, a UK umbrella group, said the conference was crucial for wildlife conservation generally. "If we lose this one, so much else may be lost," he told a London press conference.

Japan, the main market for whale meat, the USSR and Norway are former whaling nations. The moratorium agreed by 37 votes to seven by the IWC three years ago. They are technically free to continue commercial whaling. Iceland and South Korea plan to give their whalers



Sir Peter Scott and Mr Michael Neilson at the London press conference

permits to kill a total of 1,000 whales over four years for "scientific purposes". Both countries will sell the meat to Japan.

Sir Peter denounced the plan as a "blatant subterfuge" to continue commercial whaling in "flagrant abuse" of the IWC procedures. Catches would make no contribution to the IWC assessment which may form the basis for a limited resumption of commercial whaling after 1990.

The Greenpeace whale campaigner, Mr Michael Neilson, said the USSR was likely to be the first to break the ban. "We will be there to confront its Antarctic fleet if and when it sets out for the whaling grounds," he said.

"Greenpeace would watch all the whaling nations and 'go anywhere in the world if necessary to protect whales being slaughtered in defiance of the ban.' It was also considering

boycotts of Norwegian fish products and SAS airlines. Boycotts are being considered by a wider international grouping.

Allegations that the USSR had killed more than 1,000 Minke whales over its legal quota in 1984/85 and that Chile, Korea and Japan were killing protected species were made yesterday by Environmental Investigation Agency. A UK-based group of conservationists.

MPs want new police powers delayed

By Malcolm Dean

MPs are seeking to delay the introduction of new police powers until the 24-hour duty solicitor scheme can begin.

The scheme was devised to balance the new police powers in the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act. It will apply to all 3,000 police stations in the country, and is due to coincide with the introduction of new police powers in January.

An all-party early day motion is to be tabled in the House of Commons today calling on the Government to delay introduction of the police powers.

The Law Society warned in May that delays with pilot

studies meant a national system could not start on time. A further problem for the Government is the cost, which is about three times the original estimate at between £20 million and £30 million a year.

About 1.6 million people are arrested and taken to police stations every year. Two pilot schemes suggest that about 20 per cent of people in police custody want legal advice, compared with the 2 per cent who receive it.

The London pilot scheme is not expected to begin until September. Mr Lee Bridge, a research consultant who organised the first two pilot schemes for the Law Society, doubts whether the scheme can operate in London where most

solicitors live a long way from their offices.

Duty solicitors will need to get to the police stations promptly because of the strict time limits under which suspects can be held.

Experimental programmes have already begun by the police in London in anticipation of the scheme. It has led to protests from solicitors, who have been called out in the middle of the night to provide legal advice.

The Law Society reports several complaints. Mr Kim Speller, a solicitor in Islington, said yesterday he had received two calls in the middle of the night in the past week and was expecting several more because there were only seven

solicitors in his area serving a large local police station.

He said the experiment had been introduced without any consultation with the local society. The police had obtained his name and telephone number from a legal aid referred list which had nothing to do with the proposed duty solicitor scheme.

Mr Andrew Lockley, who is in charge of the Law Society's negotiations with the Lord Chancellor's department, said yesterday that the trouble in Islington illustrated the need for a proper rota scheme.

He said the Lord Chancellor's department had still not taken a decision on the rota scheme, the referral system, or fees for solicitors on the rota.

Officer denies mistaking picket's pie for a stone

By Tom Sharrait

A police constable told a court yesterday that he could not have mistaken pork pie for a demonstrator's hand for a stone.

PC David Scotland, of Merseyside, told Sheffield Crown Court that he was on duty at Ofgreave coking plant, near the city in June last year when there was mass picketing during the coal strike.

PC Scotland said that he saw a group of six or seven in a crowd and one of them, George Forster, aged 44, of Mutton, County Durham, threw a stone which he deflected with his riot shield. He ran after Forster, who stumbled, fell and was arrested.

Forster and 15 other men deny rioting. The defendants come from Scotland, South Wales, Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire as well as Durham.

Mrs Vera Baird, defending, suggested that Forster had not thrown the stone and had been arrested at random. PC Scotland said that he had thrown one. He was not arrested at random, she said.

Mrs Baird: "The plain truth is there were no stones coming from that side at all." PC Scotland: "There certainly were." Mrs Baird: "You just

ran over and grabbed the first person." PC Scotland: "Certainly not."

PC Scotland denied that he had seen Forster jumping over a wall with something in his hand, thought he was going to throw a stone, and ran after him.

Mrs Baird suggested that what Forster had had in his hand was a pork pie. PC Scotland said: "There was no mistake. There is no way I could mistake a pork pie for a stone."

Referring to a cut which Forster received to the head, Mrs Baird read from a statement in which PC Scotland quoted him as saying: "I got bricked by my mates by mistake."

She asked if "bricking" someone was Merseyside usage and PC Scotland said that he thought it was widely used. He did not know if the term was used in Co Durham. Mrs Baird asked: "You made up that answer?" PC Scotland replied: "That is certainly not true."

Mrs Baird said that Forster had told a doctor who treated the injury that he had tripped and banged his head. PC Scotland replied: "He said he fell over."

The trial continues.

Car crash award cut

An apprentice carpenter who suffered widespread irreversible brain damage in a car crash has had an award of £212,518 damages cut by £267,700 in the Appeal Court, yesterday.

The award had been made to Mr John Paul Fitzgerald, aged 22, of Canterbury Road, Morden, Surrey, who was injured in 1980 when the car, in which he was a passenger, crashed.

The driver, Mr Kevin White, of Chester Gardens, Morden, had contested the amount.

Mr Fitzgerald is looked after by his father as his mother is paralysed after a stroke. Mr Fitzgerald, described as emotionally empty, was said to be able to do a few things around the house and keep himself clean and tidy. He had been vigorous, athletic and popular.

Lord Justice Kerr said the cost awarded for domestic help reflected "a pessimistic view," as there was no clear evidence that full-time residential help would inevitably be necessary.

The court also considered that a sum of £48,000 for pain and suffering and loss of amenity should be reduced to £25,000 and an award of £128,000 for future loss of earnings would be cut to £118,800.

Healthy sex guide for young

By Andrew Veitch, Medical Correspondent

A SEXUAL survival guide aimed at curbing the spread of sexually transmitted disease (STD) in 16 to 24-year-olds was launched by the Health Education Council yesterday. It describes the diseases, how to prevent them, and how to get treatment.

The council intends to distribute a million copies of its *Healthy Sex Guide* to a Healthy Sex Life in an attempt to remove the stigma,

mystery and moralising that deters people from seeking help.

Professor Michael Adler of the Middlesex Hospital, London, said: "I accept that some people will get diseases, what you can do about it, and what will happen when you go to an STD clinic."

Despite the Gillieks ruling that doctors must not prescribe contraceptives for children under 16 without parental consent, STD clinics were

willing to give confidential treatment to under-16s, he said. "You can walk straight in. You don't have to go to your GP first."

The booklet, distributed free with non-specific infections such as chlamydia as well as gonorrhoea, thrush, warts, herpes, lice, syphilis, hepatitis B, and AIDS.

"This booklet is not meant to put you off the joys of sex, but to help you avoid the kinds of infections that can make sex unhealthy," it says.

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BRIGHTER STUDIES

Japan declares war on cancer

The Ten for Knowledge
Cancer is believed to kill between 300,000 and 400,000 people a year. Now Japan's research institutions, universities and private companies are joining forces in researching the basic biological causes of cancer.

Trying to stop stomach cancer before it kills
Japan leads the world in public health schemes to detect the earliest signs of stomach cancer. September has been declared anti-cancer month and television commercials encourage people to take part.

Cancer and Viruses — The Japanese Connection
Japan's molecular biologists are in the lead investigating the link between viruses and cancer. Back in the 1970s it was Japanese researchers who first described a T-cell leukaemia (ATL) linked to a virus now believed by some to be related to the killer AIDS virus.

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*The Daihatsu Diesel Turbo is the world's first production car to achieve 77mpg at 56mph under Official British Government Tests, Urban 57.2mpg 4.94 l/100Km, 56mph (90Km/hr) 76.8, 3.68 l/100Km, 75mph (120Km/hr) 45.6mpg 6.2 l/100Km.

Three convicted of murder face life sentences

15 Jewish settlers guilty of terrorism against Palestinians

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

Fifteen militant Jewish settlers were convicted yesterday of waging a four-year terrorist campaign against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank. Three were found guilty of murder by the Jerusalem District Court and can expect to be sentenced to life imprisonment.

The verdicts in the trial, one of the longest and most controversial in Israeli history, showed that during the year-long proceedings the court had not accepted the argument that a crime was less serious if committed in defence of Jewish settlers in the occupied territory.

Sentences on the 15 are to be handed down next week, but the three men charged with murder can expect mandatory life terms. There are widely expected to be appeals and requests for pardons in the light of the controversy over the release in May of over 11,000 Palestinian prisoners, many of them convicted terrorists.

The murder charges arose out of a machine gun and hand grenade attack against the Islamic College in the West Bank town of Hebron in 1983. Three Palestinian students were killed. Two other defendants were convicted of attempted murder and manslaughter.

Of the original 27 defendants in the case, 10 had been previously convicted and two others are still awaiting trial. The court dropped the charge of attempted murder in the case of a bomb attack against three West Bank mayors in June, 1980 and convicted eight of the defendants instead of actual or attempted murder.

One of the men convicted of planting bombs under the cars of the mayors, Yitzhak Novick, said afterwards that the verdict was unjust.

"First of all I'm disappointed that I have been categorised as a terrorist since what I did I felt I did in order to protect my family and my neighbours," he said. "Looking back, it's been proven that what I set out to do was successful in that for two years there were almost no terrorist incidents in the West Bank."

The judges were divided on whether the plan to blow up the Dome of the Rock — the third holiest place of Islam — in Jerusalem was a conspiracy. The chairman of the court, Judge Ya'acov Bazak, said it was not, but his two colleagues on the bench disagreed. The Dome of the Rock is on the site of the Jewish temple, and some orthodox Jews consider the very presence of a Muslim holy place to be a desecration.

Mr Yehuda Ezio, the number two defendant in the case, said after the verdict was passed that he believed he would be vindicated: "I'm not surprised, but in the court of history I am not guilty. The Dome of the Rock will be removed from the temple mount."

Two of the defendants were convicted of attempted murder in a plot to blow up Arab buses in western Jerusalem in May, 1984, the episode which led to the arrest of the whole group.

Israel's security zone becomes a liability

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

THE two suicide car bombers who blew themselves up at opposite ends of the border of Israel's "security zone" in South Lebanon on Tuesday provided a bloody reminder of the dangers of trying to keep the peace of Galilee from the wrong side of the international frontier. The attacks, the most serious since Israel claimed it was completing its troop withdrawal from the south early last month, came after a period of relative quiet with the South Lebanon

Army of General Antoine Lahad assuming responsibility for policing the border area.

The casualties in Tuesday's explosion — 14 Lebanese dead, scores wounded, and two Israeli soldiers injured — reflect the reality of the zone. The heavy Israeli losses during the period of intense Shi'ite resistance and the "iron fist" response to it, are a thing of the past.

But the "Lebanonisation" of Israel's presence north of the border may well be a greater danger than the threat of Katyusha rockets

striking Kiryat Shmona and other towns in Galilee. The maintenance of the largely Christian SLA in a predominantly Shi'ite area and the continued presence of several hundred Israeli "advisers" on Lebanese soil seem likely to provoke further escalation. Yet there are no signs that Israel is to change its tune. Indeed, attacks like Tuesday's will simply lock the policy-makers into a circle from which they cannot escape. There are Israeli defence officials arguing for the disbanding of the SLA and an end to the security

zone, but they need peace if they are to carry the day. And peace is in short supply because of existing policy.

"In our perception, the security zone concept, including the existence of the South Lebanon Army is the lesser evil," says Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator of operations in Lebanon. "I don't say that this concept is a good one. It's a bad one. But unfortunately the other options are worse."

But are they? The dissenters say that if Israel were to truly withdraw across the border, end its

support for the SLA and maintain a defensive posture from Galilee, then the mainstream Shi'ite Amal movement, led by Mr Nabih Berri, would not allow Palestinian attacks on Israel proper.

Mr Berri, who has already waged war on the Palestinians in southern Beirut, wants to win his community — the largest in Lebanon — a rightful place in the country's political and economic life. He is not interested in, nor is he capable of, liberating Palestine for a people he resents.



Menachem Livni, one of the convicted murderers, with his wife, outside the court

Lebanon to lose US aid until hostages are freed

Washington: Lebanon will not get US foreign aid unless seven Americans kidnapped there are released, according to an amendment adopted by the House of Representatives.

The amendment, passed with the support of the Democratic and Republican leadership, says the \$2.5 million set aside for Lebanon for 1986 and the same amount for the next year may be used "only if all United States citizens held involuntarily by terrorists in that country have been released before the enactment of this act."

In Beirut, meanwhile, a Lebanese Government source said that the Syrian President, Mr Assad, would press the kidnappers to release the American hostages "at the right moment" after first assuring their safety.

The hostages — kidnapped last year and this year — are being held by the Islamic Jihad organisation.

Fighting continued yesterday despite a Syrian-backed agreement to halt inter-Muslim clashes and restart reconciliation talks with Christians.

Shells crashed into the northern port of Tripoli in the third day of street fighting between rival Muslim militias, and Christian east Beirut came under a barrage of shellfire in a separate flare-up.

Snipers forced police to shut the main road linking Beirut's Christian and Muslim sectors briefly only a day after it was opened to traffic following months of closure.

Colombo to release 643 Tamil rebels

Colombo: The Government said last night it is to release 643 Tamil guerrillas held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and immediately lift the night curfew in force in five northern districts.

The measures have been seen as an index of progress at the peace talks that began on Monday in Bhutan's capital of Thimpu between representatives of the Sri Lankan Government and Tamil separatists. "It is clearly a major conciliatory effort by the Government," said a veteran politician who asked not to be named.

The decision to release the rebels, among 1,197 now in custody under the terrorism law, was announced by the National Security Ministry an hour after the Defence Ministry said the curfew would be lifted immediately.

It had been in force from 10 pm to 4 am in the predominantly Tamil northern districts of Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi for several months.

The Information Minister, Mr Anandadasa de Alwis, quoted the National Security Minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, as saying he expected a "very useful understanding will be reached" at Thimpu.

"The talks are proceeding well. No one expects finality but a very useful understanding will be reached, narrowing differences so that both sides can see their way to a solution," Mr de Alwis said.

President Jayewardene, ill with flu, did not attend the Cabinet meeting.

A spokesman for the Eelam National Liberation Front, an alliance of four Tamil guerrilla groups represented in Bhutan, said the offer to release the detainees had been made by Colombo on Tuesday at the talks.

Speaking from the southern Indian city of Madras, he said the Government had also offered to review the detention of 554 others. — Reuter.

Shultz keeps his options open on Kampuchea plan

Kuala Lumpur: The US and its Southeast Asian partners appeared to be split yesterday over America's role in tackling the problem of a Vietnam-dominated Kampuchea.

The Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, arriving in Malaysia for talks with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, told a news conference: "Our disposition is to support the initiatives of Asean." A senior official travelling with Mr Shultz said: "We are trying to avoid a leadership role."

Leaders in some Asean countries have recently called on the US to drop its "standing behind Asean posture". The Singapore Foreign Minister, Mr Suppiah Dhanabalan, said that the six country group would "not be happy" with Washington taking its cue only from Asean on Kampuchea. The Asean ministers have

called for indirect or "proximity" talks between Vietnam and the three allied Kampuchean groups fighting the Vietnamese in Kampuchea. The pro-Hanoi Government in Kampuchea would be included in the Vietnamese delegation.

Arriving from Thailand, where he visited the Thai-Kampuchean border, Mr Shultz said this issue would be discussed during the next three days with the Asean foreign ministers, who ended their eighteenth annual meeting on Tuesday.

Discussions on political, economic, and social issues begin today between the Asean ministers and their dialogue partners — the US, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the EEC.

The Asean members are Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. — AP.

Floods cut off villages

Dhaka: Fresh monsoon rains have stranded about 90,000 people in southeastern Bangladesh and thousands more are fleeing flooded villages, officials said yesterday.

Police and rescue teams have picked up more than 10,000 villagers marooned by the 45 inches of rain which fell on Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, and Bandarban districts over the past four days.

No casualties were reported in the flood-hit areas, but officials said 11 people were killed and 20 injured in landslides caused by rains in the Rangamati hill district.

The Haida, Bangu and Matamuhuri rivers had burst their banks and were now flowing three feet above danger level weather officials said. — Reuter.

Tanks join Shi'a hunt

Islamabad: Tanks and armoured cars patrolled Quetta yesterday as troops searched a curfew-bound Shi'ite district for weapons after 27 people died in gun battles.

Officials said that the crowded Marriabad neighbourhood was calm and residents stood quietly by as troops moved from house to house. Several dozen people were arrested and many Kalashnikov automatic rifles seized.

Police said that they arrested five Shi'ite leaders on Tuesday night in connection with the gun battles. At least 25 people were shot dead on Saturday during a march for greater religious rights.

Officials blamed the violence on feuds between Shi'ite Afghan refugee groups.

Young Kim 'takes over'

PEKING: Kim Jong Il, the son of President Kim Il Sung of North Korea, is now leading the country, according to a report from Pyongyang. The report said that Kim Jong Il had taken over the leadership of the Kampuchea resistance leader.

Prince Sihanouk also said he felt Kim Il Sung, aged 73, North Korea's ruler for four decades, was older than the Soviet Union, as was his 43-year-old son. "Kim Jong Il is more accepted by China. It seems

that the Chinese recognise him officially as the Crown Prince," he said.

The Prince formed a friendship with Kim Il Sung in the 1960s shortly before he was deposed as head of state.

The younger Kim sends him tropical fruits — "Kiwi fruit from New Zealand, Pineapple even from Hawaii and Sun-kissed (oranges) even from California" — but does not receive him. — AP.

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ICI have announced the UK's largest industrial conversion to coal at its Wilton plant — a £43 million investment. At the heart of this complex are water tube boilers which will be fired by pulverised coal. The plant will burn about 500,000 tonnes of coal a year. This will be delivered by the merry-go-round system of continuously moving trains, loading and unloading on the move, each transporting 1000 tonnes.

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Anger mounts as logistical problems snare food supplies

Aid agencies frustrated by failure of famine relief

By Michael Simmons

ANGER and frustration among Britain's aid agencies at the failure of governments and international relief organisations to be more effective in the face of Africa's continuing famine finally boiled over yesterday. Senior officials at Oxfam and Save the Children said little seemed to have been learned from the disasters and signs of impending disaster over the last 10 years.

In Ethiopia, according to Oxfam, the food situation remains critical for "millions" of people and, says Save the Children, far more people are far more vulnerable than at this time last year. In Sudan, says Oxfam, there is a "logistical nightmare" while its sister agency claims that hundreds of thousands may soon die there and there is a possibility of food riots at the Nylas distribution centre.

Both agencies insist they do not want a slanging match with the organisations concerned, not least because they work closely together, and also agree the blame has to be shared by a number of parties, including sectors of the Ethiopian and Sudanese governments. But the over-riding feeling is that the United Nations in Africa, in the words of one official, "has failed to get its act together."

The official, who has long field experience in Africa, said the UN was losing credibility and that potential donors were less willing to channel resources through its affiliates. "The result," he said, "is that while the UN is put up as a coordinating body, it has nothing to coordinate."

Mr David Alexander, a Save the Children field director who has just returned from Ethiopia, said yesterday that the British agencies were "filling in gaps" and "holding the thing together." But the solution still depended on the major donors.

In Ethiopia and Sudan, it emerged yesterday that the food at the ports, but distribution was difficult, if not impos-

sible. Mr Alexander said it was harder to get major donors to invest in transportation than it was to shift grain supplies. "Things are moving far too late."

While British Government assistance in the latest emergency had been appreciable, the situation on the ground was not helped, he said, by the withdrawal, due in two months, of the two warplanes transport aircraft now on loan. Nor was it helped by an Italian decision to send tractors without trailers.

Mr Alexander estimated that Ethiopia now had roughly half the transport required to meet present famine needs, and only 50,000 tonnes of food aid a month were being moved. A delicate situation was not helped by "silly bickering" between the Ethiopian government and some donors.

Mr Mark Bowden, Save the Children's deputy director overseas, who has just returned from Sudan, said that less than 18 per cent of the grain was getting through. At El Geneina, near the Sudan-Chad border, 100 people were reported to be dying a day.

In the villages of Darfur, Western Sudan, the food monitors tell us people have been living off berries and leaves. But now the berries and leaves have run out.

June 8, Mr Bowden said a target total delivery of 74,000 tonnes of grain to the area had been envisaged, but only 13,000 tonnes had arrived. But the cross-country rail link this time link was cut at the weekend when a bridge collapsed as a grain train was crossing.

In both agencies, there is anger at the UN bodies concerned for being slow off the mark. They should have seen it coming a year ago, said one official. In Ethiopia, the UN co-ordinator, Mr Kurt Janssen, was experienced but was not established until March of this year, while his opposite number in Sudan, Mr Winston Pringle, had only been in-



The agony continues: Victims of the Ethiopian drought wait at the Red Cross feeding centre at Bati for food supplies

Africa's \$70 billion debt to dominate OAU crisis summit

Addis Ababa: African states are expected to press for a world conference on the continent's \$70 billion debt at the Organisation of African Unity meeting that started yesterday. Faced with economic crisis, African governments have decided to devote the two-week annual summit to the financial woes and how to solve them.

Proposals being circulated to foreign ministers, who began a preparatory session yesterday for the July 12-21 summit, call for an international conference to develop "a suitable framework for tackling Africa's external debt."

The proposals also call for more soft loans from governments and financial institutions, easier rescheduling terms and the conversion of some government-to-government loans into grants.

African diplomats doubted there would be much support for calls for a moratorium on Africa's debts, which the proposal estimates will exceed

\$170 billion by the end of this year. A document containing the proposals says concessional loans to Africa represented 62.5 per cent of credits to sub-Saharan Africa in 1972 but dropped to 47 per cent in 1983. Debt servicing rose from 19.18 per cent of export earnings in 1983 to 27.4 per cent in 1983.

"In 1982, Africa's total debt was 51 per cent of gross national product and 89 per cent in 1983. African countries recognise that external debts are obligations they have contracted and which they must honour," it says.

But it adds: "In view of the special situation of the continent, the countries will need longer grace and repayment periods and increased concessional resources in order to restore growth and thus be able to meet their debt-servicing obligations."

The proposals also call on African states to work together

to solve their food crisis by giving priority to farm output. It is the first OAU summit to centre on economic since heads of state in Lagos five years ago drew up a blueprint to speed economic development.

The so-called Lagos plan of action urged member states to work together towards "continental self-sufficiency and a common market by the year 2000." — Reuters

Plight of women

NAIROBI: Thousands of women singing "We are the women" yesterday attended the colourful opening of what already appears to be a politically charged meeting to review the plight of women throughout the world.

Men were virtually absent from the audience. Most journalists there, including television crews, were women.

Over 1,000 topics from female circumcision to sex stereotyping in elementary education will be discussed during the 10-day meeting of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

Political skirmishing marked preparations for meetings with the Palestine Liberation Organisation yesterday. "Israel" was accused of stepping Palestinian women leaders in Israel and the occupied territories from attending the meetings. — Reuters

Teachers freed

Maputo: Two European teachers freed from detention in Mozambique with a Dutch doctor at the weekend have been told to leave the country.

Mozambique's news agency AIM said a British, Mr John Wilson, and a Dutchman, Mr Richard Fluit, had been working on government contracts and were detained in May on suspicion of involvement in activities threatening state security. — Reuters

Tutu intervenes to save life of beaten black

From Patrick Laurence in Durban

Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, yesterday saved the life of a suspected informer at the funeral of four young black activists.

The man was being punched, kicked and stomped by scores of angry blacks outside the cemetery when Bishop Tutu intervened physically to drag him to safety and rescue from certain death.

Earlier a section of the 10,000-strong crowd at the cemetery intercepted the unidentified man as he drove up a side street near the cemetery. A wall of people blocked the car from the front and back as the driver was hauled out and accused of being an informer.

He was unable to satisfy his impromptu interrogators of his innocence, largely because he was literally "beaten" with fear. As he was being quizzed, his car was overturned and set alight. The flames set his assailants into action and they began to beat and kick him mercilessly.

Bishop Simeon Nkomo, Suffragan Bishop of Johannesburg, tried unsuccessfully to stop the assault. Then Bishop Tutu, who had earlier pleaded with blacks not to use methods in their struggle for freedom of which they or their leaders would be ashamed, intervened to save him. The man was taken away to hospital by Bishop Nkomo.

The funeral started at the stadium in the dusty township of Duduza, about 25 miles from Johannesburg. Four coffins were carried by young activists and placed on chains in

the virtually grassless sportsfield.

Most young people were wearing T-shirts with photo-prints of the four dead men on the front. Inscriptions on the T-shirts lauded the four as freedom fighters and contained quotations from speeches by Nelson Mandela.

The theme of most speeches was one of blood and sacrifice in the cause of freedom, especially from the classmates of the dead men. All four were founder members of the Duduza branch of the Congress of South African Students.

According to the police, the four students died when grenades which they were carrying exploded. The funeral, however, demonstrated again that most township people believe that they were killed by police and informers.

The despair of older people in the community was manifest in the words of a local headmaster. Mr Charles Motswagole said: "What can I say to the people of Duduza whose young are an endangered species?"

The younger generation of Cossas activists was, however, in a more militant mood. "We say no to the South African Defence Force and yes to the black struggle," the military wing of the ANC, another Cossas speaker said. One said: "We are unarmed. Umkhonto We Sizwe, we are waiting for you."

The coffins of the four students were carried along a dusty street to the cemetery under a huge ANC flag, the crowd swelled to at least 10,000 people determined to honour them as heroes.

Irish protest to SA

From Joe Joyce in Dublin

The Irish Government yesterday sought an explanation from South Africa for what it described as the arbitrary exclusion of a group of anti-apartheid strikers who had flown to Johannesburg at the invitation of Bishop Desmond Tutu.

The 10-strong group were put on the extra flight back to London on Monday. They include eight young supermarket employees who have been on strike for almost a year over their refusal to handle South African goods at Dunnes Stores, Dublin.

The South African government said it was prepared to admit two of the group.

Cambridge Tripos results

The following Tripos examination results have been published. A denotes distinction.

PHILOSOPHY PART 1A
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

Class 2 division 1
A. R. Adams, University Coll, USA and New Coll, London and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 2 division 2
D. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 3 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 3 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 1B
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 2
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 3
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 4
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 5
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 6
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 7
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 8
Class 1 division 1
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain. Class 1 division 2
H. J. Smith, Eton Coll and King's Coll, London and Cordoba Coll, Spain.

PHILOSOPHY PART 9
Class 1 division 1
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Mick Brown on The Blasters

THERE is a corner of north London that is forever 1958, or is it 1962? Or possibly 1966. Between them Dingwalls and the Electric Ballroom have hosted just about every American "roots" band to have made the pilgrimage to Britain in the last few months — Tex-Mex, rock and roll, neo-psychedelic and all. It's been a long, sweaty, sometimes exciting, sometimes tiresome affair.

What has become increasingly obvious is that merely making the right allusions to mythic periods or styles of American music is not enough. Character, style, a fresh twist on old tricks are mandatory. The Blasters have the first two in abundance, and sufficient verve, attitude, and sense of humour to make the third hardly matter at all.

Long a fixture on the Los Angeles bar and club scene, one fancies that The Blasters could have arrived here at any time in the last ten years — 25 if they had been playing that long — and delivered, essentially the same

set: a carousing journey through cajun, rockabilly and rhythm and blues styles, founded on judiciously chosen standards and original material that sounds like standards.

The Blasters have the slicker-back, threatening manner of greasers armed with monkey-wrenches, a bullish biker-type hunched over the keyboards, the disorientating spectacle of two near-identical brothers — Dave and Phil Alvin — on guitars and vocals, and a sound engineer who, wisely, mixes the bass further forward than it ever was on 1950s record sessions. A stirring and flawless celebration of traditionalism with a weather eye on contemporary sensibilities.

Just behind the Scorchers, the evening's nominal headliners at the Electric, seem caught in a trap of their own making: extrovert showmen determined to take the audience by the throat and strangle them into submission — all bluster and marginal skill.

The man who didn't want it both ways

As complete failures go, David Stockman was a tremendous success. When Ronald Reagan picked the bright, idealistic young Congressman to be his Budget Director in 1980, he and Stockman both prophesied that America's rising deficit would be back to zero by 1984. That was their joint pledge and their united aim. As, almost five years later, a disillusioned, grey-haired Stockman resigns to make money on Wall Street, that deficit figure is nudging towards 200 billion dollars. And yet the Director departs bathed in warm opinions and benign tributes. He will be a sad loss to the Republican administration because he flopped truthfully, wittily, acerbically and very, very publicly. His education in the inexorable ways of high politics left him chastened but unbowed. When he knew what was wrong, he said so loudly. This year's impending budget compromise, for instance, is brimming over with "accounting gimmicks, half truths and downright dishonesty." When Caspar Weinberger and the Pentagon hid up their numbers, Stockman said baldly "it's an outrage." The institutional forces in the military are more concerned about protecting their retirement pensions than they are about protecting the security of the American people. When push comes to shove, they'd give up a security before they'll give up on retirement. But there is one Stockman quote, perhaps, to be cherished beyond all others, because it is agonised truthfulness crosses so many international boundaries. "A lot of dreamers, including some in the Administration, believe that still more social programmes can be cut from the Budget," he said last year. "But if you are now reaching the legislative hardcore of the budget, the budget system is not the problem. The problem is that this democracy is somewhat ambivalent about what it wants. It wants low taxes and substantial public spending." Given a choice between two desirable goals, in short, your average voter wants both.

David Stockman thus leaves office with his reputation enhanced by denouncing the load of rubbish his masters promised their electorate: but, for all that, he was no quitter. He stuck at an intractable task way beyond the call of duty. Though the fundamental cross he bore was Ronald Reagan's

simple belief that taxes couldn't be raised, he did his very best to make sense of essentially berserk arithmetic. His departure hands Mr Reagan and his successor at the OMB some unpleasant explaining to do; but it also leaves some quite tricky questions for politicians across a broader spectrum.

Politics, as Stockman learnt, is not all about hard choices. It is about the softest options available. He went along with the myth of supply-side economics because, as he admitted at the time, it seemed the best way to camouflage warring tax cuts for Reagan's high-bracket business supporters. When the figures on his balance sheet turned from red to livid scarlet, he couldn't persuade the President to change course. When he complained about the endless escalation of military spending, he found Weinberger nipping in ahead with little charts filled with lurid horrors. And when — encouraged by the baying chorus of alarm on Capitol Hill — he sought necessary decisions from his former Congress chums, he found the pork barrel of state and district hypocrisy as well stocked as ever.

Does Mrs Thatcher recognise the Stockman syndrome as she prepares, this morning, for yet another miserable, cutting, feuding Cabinet? There are those on the far right who read her sternest lectures about slashing this and maiming that in order to get taxes down. But mention defence, and they're fulminating about the Soviet menace and heaping on fresh funds at the military double. They are her own backbenchers, who would wish to see all pain ameliorated but all chartered courses stuck to. There are (whether she used the phrase or not) those "spineless spenders" around her table who are frankly sick of the endless chore of parsing here and sniping there. We happen to agree with many of her critics, because we have long believed that the Chancellor's repetitive anthem is just another economic loney tune to set beside the Laffer curve. But that doesn't completely rule out modest sympathy for a rattled politician in a jam.

David Stockman is right. People don't want more public spending rather than tax cuts. They characteristically want the whole bumper bundle. And the rhetoric of great, single-minded expectation does not prepare the electoral process for the business of making choices. Ronald Reagan's heirs and successors will one day rue the President's oblivious good cheer. And Mrs Thatcher, as she berates recalcitrant colleagues today, might also spare a thought for Stockman as an apostle of the real middle way: a man who came from politics but rapidly became exasperated by the evasions of the middle

way — simplistic promises and a refusal to adjust when they go awry.

A State of exhaustion?

For the past few months Israel has faced a series of buffeting crises, and another has now arisen in the Jerusalem district court. Yesterday three Israelis were found guilty of murder and 12 of lesser crimes committed by the Jewish terrorist underground against Arabs. For those who murdered three Palestinian students at Hebron on the West Bank, the mandatory sentence is life imprisonment. Every so often Israel is constrained to blazen misdeeds by its citizens which elsewhere in the region might be shielded under the comendous cloak of national security. There will be no Kahan Commission, for example, to examine in Lebanon, Syria or Iran, the savage assault on the Palestinian refugee camps by Shi'ite militiamen.

But that is not the only relevant observation. No great harm has come to the Israeli political and military figures censured by the Kahan Commission, and already in Israel there is a powerful lobby, including the deputy premier and foreign minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, which wants an act of presidential clemency for terrorists purporting to carry out counter-terror. Although the court found, otherwise, the defendants' plea that they acted in self-defence of their and other settlers' lives against Palestinian attack finds a ready populist response. If the Arabs defending Hebron against Jewish settlement are judged to be terrorists then the law can hardly operate because there are no agreed terms within which it can do so. In a poll shortly after the exchange of three Israeli prisoners for 1,150 Arabs, many convicted of terrorist offences, 73 per cent wanted clemency for Jewish offenders. When the law says one thing and the people another the judicial institutions are perhaps not as firmly based as lawyers would like.

This incipient crisis draws up alongside another already in existence which has forced the coalition government into an austerity package which any hard-working country would be entitled to resent. The austerities are of IMF proportions, although that unforgiving institution had no hand in them: food prices up in the range between 60 and 85 per cent, the currency devalued yet again, and the indexation of wages, which has seemed the only way to cope with price increases of 79 per cent between January and May, frozen for some months. But the Knesset says one thing: it accepts

the coalition's programme by 70 votes to 17. The trade unions, Peres supporters in another guise, say something else so that the reforms have to be called in for reworking almost as soon as they are in print.

Even — or especially — the Defence Ministry has been alarmed by the dwindling coffers. To stay in the Middle East arms race becomes more taxing by the year simply because of the cost of the latest hardware, and their components, and the electronic back-up which has kept Israel supreme. The reason why Israel spends 30 per cent of GNP on defence is buried both in the history of the state and the political paralysis — or is it realism? — which prevents it from believing that a lasting accommodation with the Palestinians is possible.

Yet Israel has seen these crises before, and beneath it always are the everlasting arms of the United States. In response to its latest measures, the coalition can look forward to a grant of \$1.5 billion. Repeated crises have been a staple of domestic politics ever since inflation began to be measured in double digits by the month instead of by the year, and they have come to look like the pre-war crises in the Balkans which were desperate but not serious. (More than 4,500 civil servants to be dismissed in a previous package are still at their desks.) Yet they take their toll. Israel keeps going on self-confidence. When that begins to falter, when the highly skilled start to emigrate rather than immigrate, when fresh tensions come of the incessant conflict which will not go away, enthusiasm can give way to weariness. However desirable it is that Israel should try to settle with its neighbours, that would be the least desirable cause of such a happening.

The Lord Chief changes lanes

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, seems to be suffering a bad case of the midlife blues. He has now done a five-year stretch as the country's senior permanent judge, and, allowing for good behaviour, he can serve until his 75th birthday in 1993. On Tuesday evening, Lord Lane made a well-reported speech at the Lord Mayor of London's dinner for judges. The speech contained some not very original judicial sociology about the effects of TV violence on crime and some stern encouragement to the Government to strip drug traffickers of their profits. Less well noticed, but in many ways much more significant, were Lord Lane's criticisms of the parole system. New forms of judicial punishment and sentencing policy were failing

to affect crime levels, he complained. All that they were achieving was to make the judges' task more "hideously difficult." The problems were compounded by recent changes in the parole rules — by which Lord Lane presumably means last year's reduction in the parole threshold from 12 to 6 months. These changes, said the Lord Chief, were increasing an already large gap between what a court can order and what actually happens to the criminal. It is thus, he concluded, for an in-depth review of parole and its relationship to other sentencing.

Judges can get very prickly when they are accused of inconsistency. Lord Lane is, indeed, who last year forbade the continuation of Home Office backed research which threatened to unmask the lack of rhyme and reason in judicial sentencing decisions. Nevertheless, Lord Lane's 1985 vintage talking about parole has a very different flavour from Lord Lane's 1981 vintage on the same subject. Four years ago Lord Lane was the judicial handman to Willie Whitelaw's attempts to encourage shorter and more flexible sentencing policies. Speaking to the probation service in May 1981, Lord Lane said that the parole system had proved itself. Referring to the Home Office's proposal to reduce the qualifying threshold, the Lord Chief Justice said that there was "no reason in logic why the proposals should not provide a good system." The extension of parole should be as successful as the original scheme in force since 1967, he predicted.

On what basis does Lord Lane now call the parole system into question? There have, in fact, been two major changes in parole since 1981. One is the threshold reduction which he approved of in 1981 and now appears to dislike. The other, also introduced by Mr Leon Brittan in 1983, is the general removal of effective parole chances from prisoners serving sentences of more than five years for violent crime or drug trafficking and the introduction of 30 year minimum terms for some murderers, through the refusal to consider such cases for release on licence. Far from widening the gap between the judges' sentence and the prisoner's term, this change narrows it considerably. Which leads us back to the conclusion that Lord Lane has turned against the parole system itself, in spite of the fact that the judiciary have generally supported it, in spite of the fact that the Government sees parole as an important, discretionary way of controlling the prison numbers that so alarmed Lord Lane in 1981, and in spite of the evidence that parolees have a lower likelihood of reoffending than comparable offenders. Lord Lane's new bias is both illogical and wrong. With eight years still to serve, he needs to recapture the progressive penal spirit which he showed when he first took office.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Miscellany at large

Sir, — The English summer brings forth its sporting fiesta and with it the ever-pleasing tones of the familiar cricket and tennis commentary teams. Like the lay, inviolating crowd amid the rustling oaks these pillars of English tradition with their impartial and floral descriptions are welcomed by the ears and hearts of many. I was saddened and somewhat bemused, however, by the evident slant and partiality of the television commentary which accompanied this year's excellent Wimbledon men's tennis final, and can find no excuse at all for Dan Maskell's lack of praise in the face of a perfectly historic show of skill by the new young champion. That is not to say that praise was absent, but just to highlight the clear preference for the defeated.

Serve me well gentlemen, in the expected manner. — Yours, Grant Langford, Twickenham, Middlesex.

Sir, — Pope John Paul, it seems, may soon be writing for the Sun newspaper (Daily July 8). St Malachy, the 12th-century Irish prelate, assigned to each succeeding pontiff a descriptive Latin aphorism. For the present Pope there could hardly have been a more felicitous choice than "Solis Solus." — Yours faithfully, (Dr) J. C. Woolf, London SW 10.

Sir, — There is a crafty little readability formula first published by Robert Gunning in 1952 — now known simply as the "Fog Index" — which attempts to assess the readability of a piece of writing, whereby a figure is calculated corresponding to the number of years of schooling a person would need to have had in order to read that writing with ease and understanding, and which, if applied to Christopher Reed's mini-Sukoff sentence of about 509 words (Guardian, July 8) produces a staggering total of about 220 years of education required to comprehend it, whereas this, on the other hand, requires a mere 45 years — or thereabouts. — Yours faithfully, John Malan, Wolverhampton.

A COUNTRY DIARY

DEVON: The hawk moths with their caterpillars are the largest and among the stranger insects of this country. The nectar-drinking moths have long proboscises and most of the larvae sport abdominal horns. The Priest Hawk moths whose large, green larvae with far-from-innocent-looking black horns used to feed on our privet hedges, were described as common by the Ilfracombe Field Club in the 1940s. In recent years I have

When Labour plays down the increase in NHS spending

Sir, — I am sorry that Michael Meacher should continue to write to your newspaper (July 9) with his hair-splitting arguments about the extent to which the Government has increased expenditure on the service against that 8.2 per cent in an effort to turn that growth of expenditure into a cut.

Mr Meacher is trying to prove that spending on the NHS has only gone up by 8.2 per cent in real terms since 1979. He then tries to stack a list of additional claims on the service against that 8.2 per cent in an effort to turn that growth of expenditure into a cut. It is right in saying that I always point out that the Government has increased expenditure by 20.5 per cent by comparison with the general level of inflation since 1978. That is using the GDP deflator, and is not a comparison with the Retail Price Index. At least I agree with

him that the Retail Price Index is not a very useful measure of health expenditure. Mr Meacher then goes wandering off into his usual arguments about whether we have or do not have more beds in the service. I do wish he would concentrate on the increased number of patients that we are treating. In England alone, there are now 600,000 more in-patient cases treated in our hospitals and more than 2.5 million more out-patient attendances each year.

It really is quite extraordinary that Mr Meacher's statistics concentrate on every aspect of the service, suitably interpreted, except for the figures of the patients we treat which is actually the point of the exercise. — Yours sincerely, Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP, (Minister for Health), House of Commons.

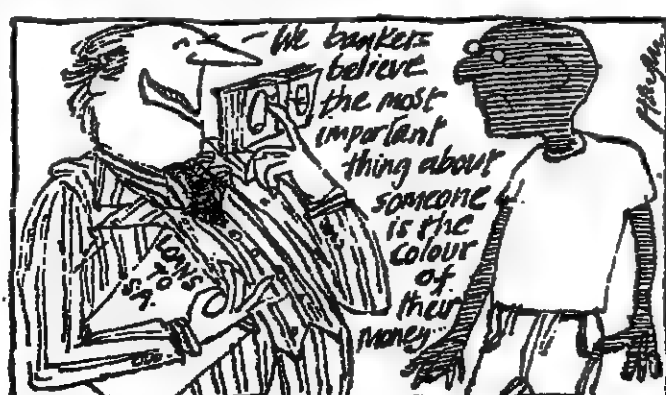
British banks that lend apartheid a hand

Sir, — I would wholeheartedly agree with Peter Rodgers' assessment (July 6) that European banks are sabotaging the international campaign to stop lending to South Africa. But the role of British banks perhaps requires further elaboration. While the main clearing banks have certainly been forced to disassociate their corporate names from loans to the South African public sector, their subsidiaries continue to participate in bond issues and credits.

Barclays Merchant Bank managed a DM 200 million bond issue by the Electricity Supply Commission in April, also partially underwritten by Trunkas and Burckhardt (92 per cent owned by Midland). In June, the same bank was involved in a DM 150 million bond issue floated by South African Transport Services.

The contrast between European and American attitudes to such trading becomes all too clear when it is noted that Midland's wholly owned US subsidiary, Crocker National, has publicly ceased all lending to the South African government and its state corporations.

The willingness of British financial institutions to prop up the apartheid regime is shameful. Hill Samuel has



participated in loans worth more than \$1,500 million in the past three years, more than any other bank in the world. Hambros and Schroeder Wagg have been involved in loans worth more than \$800 million. And the list goes on: Cazenove \$600 million; Kleinwort Benson \$800 million; Rothschilds \$800 million. The West Germans and Swiss have indeed taken over as lead-managers as US banks have withdrawn; but British banks, especially those with no smiling high-street image to maintain, show few signs of following their US counterparts' examples.

All the banks insist on their opposition to apartheid, yet when the South Africans

How the pollsters put paid to principle

Sir, — More damaging to the Labour Party than Tony Benn's speech on June 28 or Arthur Scargill's on July 1 was the opinion poll published on polling day in the Mirror, giving Labour an 18 per cent lead.

The opinion polls, banned in some countries for one week before an election, clearly took over this latter stages. Election literature concentrated less on policies and more on who was most likely to win. We were being asked to pick the horse we thought would win. Voters switched to a party whose policies were not liked just to keep out another which was liked even less.

Tactical voting may be encouraged by our first-past-the-post system but until we vote according to conscience and principle, we shall not get the government we deserve or need. A party with whose policies we most sympathise may be deprived of our vote and support because we do not think it has a chance of winning. This is a poor way of using the franchise which was won for us by former generations after a considerable struggle. — David Thomas, 3 Gilestone Cottages, Talybont-on-Usk, Powys.

Sir, — In Memoriam. — Yours faithfully, Peter Lodge, 35 Baresford Avenue, Hull.

Sir, — Andrew Trembath asks (Guardian, July 6): "Will Mori ever get the Alliance vote right?" Well, we didn't at Brecon and Radnor, that's for sure, but we did at Hillhead (Roy Jenkins), Crosby (Shirley Williams) and the 1983 general elec-

tion, all to the decimal point. Mr Trembath, and I dare say others, seems to have a short memory. — Yours sincerely, Robert M. Worcester (Chairman, Mori), London SW1.

Sir, — Arthur Scargill, Martin Flannery, and David Blunkett have all claimed that Labour's success in winning two council seats in Broomfield, Sheffield, on July 4 shows that left-wing policies are acceptable to the electorate.

In fact Labour won (by a majority of 71 votes with 207 candidates) with a slightly reduced vote and share of the poll, compared with its gain of 9 per cent in Brecon. The Conservative vote fell by 10 per cent (21 per cent in Brecon) and the Alliance gained 11 per cent (11 per cent in Brecon). In short

this result was the same as in Brecon for the Alliance, better for the Conservatives, and very much worse for Labour. However, it would be equally wrong to conclude that the swing to the Alliance "let Labour in." It was obvious throughout the campaign that longstanding Conservative voters were no longer prepared to support that party; the only question was whether they would vote at all. Moreover Alliance support increased as much in Labour areas as in Conservative ones.

If Alliance candidates had not been standing, Labour would have won the seats with a somewhat higher share of a greatly reduced poll. — Yours, David Dummer, Broom Ward SGP, Sheffield.

Sir, — Hella Pick's report (July 9) on the ENU convention suggests that it sidetracked the issue of Star Wars and was largely preoccupied with "Utopian ideas" of a bloc-free Europe. I think this is a misinterpretation of what was going on.

At the workshops and plenaries it was discussed there was a good deal of discussion about Star Wars and about President Mitterrand's proposed alternative. Eureka. But there was a general feeling that these programmes had been opposed on the grounds that international relations can not be determined by technology; that there are no technical fixes to be deep-rooted political problems.

The arms race is based on the assumption of a permanent East-West conflict. Finding ways to overcome that conflict necessarily goes hand in hand with nuclear disarmament. In our emphasis on East-West and indeed North-South relations, we were trying to demonstrate an alternative human way of solving political problems. We argued that we have to determine our own political agenda. To put all the emphasis on Star Wars is to accept the agenda and political assumptions of President Reagan.

What was exciting about the convention was the sense, perhaps for the first time, of an all-European movement in the making. Submissions to the convention from Lech Walesa, Charter 77, and from peace activists in East Germany and Hungary, showed an important shift in the position of independent groups in Eastern Europe towards the Western peace movement. We created a radical discussion of East-West issues which is likely to result in concrete proposals for overcoming the artificial division of Europe. There is a tendency to as-

sume that the peace movement must go on doing exactly what it did before if it is to remain alive. Mobilising millions of people across national frontiers is something that can be achieved only occasionally in history. The demonstrations brought about an historic change of consciousness and created hundreds of thousands of peace campaigners who are still active, but who want to express their peace commitment in new ways.

Nuclear weapons, at least in Western Europe, remain the central concern; but they have to be discussed within wider political and economic context if our position to them is to be translated into action by governments.

What impressed me about the convention at Amsterdam was the way in which the debate in the peace movement had developed and deepened over the last five years. The movement's main task now is to ensure that this new thinking enters the wider political arena. — Yours sincerely, Mary Kaldor, 35 Sussex Square, Brighton, E. Sussex.

New directions for peace

Sir, — Brecht East Labour Party's General Management Committee did not simply criticise Ken Livingstone's decision to run for treasurer (Guardian, July 4). In fact it mandated him not to stand.

We felt it was a serious failing of him not even to attempt to consult our party before publicly declaring his intentions to run for election — where his eligibility stems from his selection as our parliamentary candidate — and demanded that he stand down. — Yours faithfully, Emma Tait, Brent East Labour Party, London NW2.

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A proper inquest

Sir, — Cllr P.A.C. Sealy refers (Letters, July 8) to the "anonymous role" of Brent Nalzo in the Jasmine Beckford inquiry, and accuses us of "suppression of the facts".

In reality our members have cooperated fully with reviews of their work by senior management and councillors on more than one occasion. And they have cooperated fully with the independent inquiry held in public throughout their evidence.

The only matter in which we have not cooperated has been the internal inquiry proposed by Cllr Sealy. We objected to the composition of the panel, its lack of independence, and lack of expertise. We objected particularly to one of its terms of reference: to recommend disciplinary action against staff. We objected to its timing — before the DJSB proceedings against Jasmine Beckford. We felt that such an inquiry was based on too many prejudgments and presumptions of negligence.

Nalzo would have been failing its members if it had granted a blanket to such an inquiry, but it was eventually prepared to cooperate if at least an independent child-abuse specialist was on the panel.

The issue was never put to the test. Councillors changed their decision — in the absence of Cllr Sealy who was on holiday — and resolved to initiate an independent inquiry. Our position throughout has been broadly in line with the DJSB guidelines on inquiries into child abuse deaths published in the last few days.

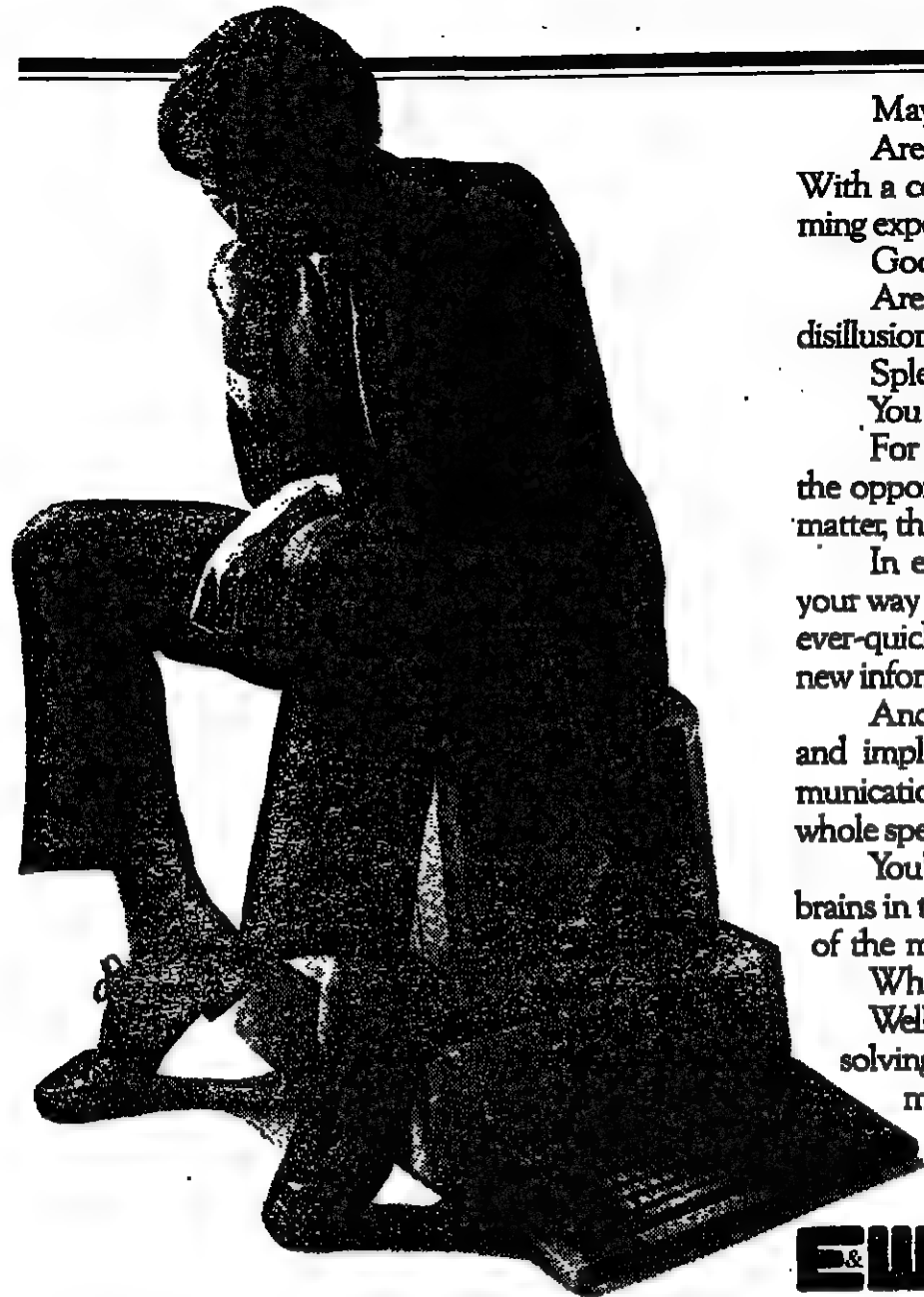
I would remind Cllr Sealy that those responsible for Jasmine's death have already been tried and convicted. He says that he is interested in the inquiry answering only one question: in effect, should a member of staff be sacked? If this view on such inquiries is widely held by our employers, they should not be surprised if our members become far more defensive in their work with children.

Social workers take crucial decisions every day, and live with risk. They are entitled to be properly heard when a child dies, and to be properly represented by a prosecutor. The trade union that should be subject to a with-hunt no matter how politically expedient that may be. — Yours faithfully, Brent Nalzo, 10 Brondesbury Road, London NW7.

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Currently, we have these immediate opportunities at a variety of locations throughout the region:

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Ref: BA/156/G

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Write to: CCS Staff Section, Room 693 or tel: 01-633 6089.

Application forms must be returned by 26 July 85.

To obtain your form write to the appropriate Staff Section, quoting the ref. and room number on the envelope, to: GLC, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB. Or telephone the number given.

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You will be involved in all aspects of river flow, rainfall and ground water data collection and processing including field work, hydrological analysis of data and the maintenance and development of software. You will also participate in the operation of a telemetry system and the provision of a flood warning service.

This is a good opportunity for a young hydrologist to gain some practical experience in operational hydrology.

Applicants should be graduates in an appropriate discipline preferably with a post graduate qualification in hydrology. Some experience in computer programming particularly on microcomputers is highly desirable.

A car allowance will be paid and candidates should hold a current driving licence.

Application forms are available from the General Manager Personnel, Kings Meadow House, c/o Nugent House, Watlington Cross, Watlington, Reading RG1 8DB. Tel: Reading 583953.

Closing date: 28th July 1985.

Thames Water

Mathematicians Physical Scientists

We are keen to appoint good, enthusiastic maths/science/engineering graduates or post graduates to challenging research and development positions in the Non-Destructive Testing Applications Centre, which is in the CEGB North Western Region Scientific Services Department in South Manchester.

Non-destructive techniques of examination (able to ultrasonics and radiography in medicine) are widely used to ensure the safety of engineering plant. The Centre is internationally recognised for its scientific understanding of technical developments and practical application of these rapidly evolving techniques.

Non-destructive testing is an interdisciplinary subject, and direct previous experience is not necessary. At present we are seeking a person with a good understanding of mathematics to join a team who are developing mathematical and statistical models of the ultrasonics and radiography techniques. There are also other openings for physics/science/engineering graduates to push forward experimental research and technical development. The positions would be attractive both to new graduates and post graduates, and to those with some industrial experience. Starting salaries will be in the range from about £8,000 to £18,000 p.a. and within the CEGB there is great scope for career development.

If you are interested in a position within this dynamic field, write for an application form and further information to: Lesley Williams of Personnel Services, CEGB, Europe House, Bird Hill Lane, Stretford M20 2DA, or telephone 061-428 0711.

ext. 2522. Please quote Vacancy No. 74 for mathematicians and Vacancy No. 423 for physical scientists.

Closing date for applications - 31st July 1985.

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Further details and application forms (please send feedback SA6) may be obtained from the Personnel Department, The Polytechnic, Queensgate, Huddersfield HD1 3DH and should be returned to that office not later than 2nd August 1985.

HUDDERSFIELD POLYTECHNIC

Help deaf-blind people use new electronic communication aids.

GRADUATE FOR TEMPORARY PROJECT

We are running a 12 week project from 2nd September 1985, to evaluate the effectiveness of a new reading device designed for use with other technical aids to help deaf-blind people to communicate.

We are looking for someone to act as a trainer, to teach the use of the microcomputer to a number of deaf-blind people and to carry out an evaluation of this aid.

Salary: £126 per week. Application form and further details from Helen Bright, HRB, 254 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA or call on 288-1288. Ext. 351. Closing date 22 July for interviews 1st August 1985.

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We are currently seeking a Senior Technical Assistant to work within our Texaco Denmark organisation based in Texaco's office in Knightsbridge.

You would assist management in planning and implementing selected overseas projects within the Exploration and Production areas of Texaco Denmark. Reporting to the Chief Petroleum Engineer, you will support overall operations in activities such as digitizing seismic data, preparing computer generated maps and graphs, calculating multi-discipline input data for economic analyses, monitoring daily drilling activities and reporting data to partners and others.

You should have an engineering degree, (preferably petroleum engineering) and/or up to 5 years' experience working in a related area. Applicants must have an aptitude for computerised systems and the ability to communicate and work with all levels of personnel.

We will offer a salary commensurate with age and experience along with benefits associated with any large organisation.

Please write, giving full career details, to:

Ms. A. Ellison, Personnel Officer, Recruitment, Texaco Limited, 1 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1X 7QJ.

HIS FINGERS never leave the keyboard. His ears are constantly attuned to two overlapping voices. And his eyes scan four display screens whenever, for a second or two, he can divert his concentration from what's happening in the real world outside his cubbyhole window.

That is the working pattern — six hours a day and often longer — for which BBC cricket nut-cum-computer operator is supplying the wealth of instant statistics that backs that day's Test match TV coverage.

Cricket is a natural for computer treatment, first because of its burden of statistics and its obsession with obscure records, but above all because of the critical one-day and final-day equations between over and time and runs and wickets. Only a computer can instantly, constantly, and precisely supply that true state of play.

Yet the BBC's travelling minicomputer is a solitary beast. Only one county cricket ground in England (Reading) has an electronic scoreboard. The incongruity peaks at Mecca. The BBC's computer, Paula, the Lord's is co-located with more than a broom cupboard at the top of the Warner Stand. It is possible there to dip into a constantly shifting database containing around half a million words.

Outside, the paying customer has to rely on scoreboards that are as informative as a station loudspeaker. Australian grounds were doing better 60 years ago.

Only one scorer among the 17 first-class county clubs — Victor Isaacs, of Hampshire — uses computers, though he is now winning a disciple in the Essex scorers. Isaacs does not yet score by computer. He uses a Sinclair Spectrum and a BBC Acorn at home to keep the county averages and players' careers up to date.

At 40, Isaacs is the youngest county scorer. He says his colleagues either pool-pool the idea of using computers or think it beyond them.

Even Bill Frindall, master of the instant answer on Radio Three's Test Match Special, relies on a pocket calculator and his mobile



Left: Programmed for action — Test captain's Governor and Border. Right: Captions editor Peter Pickering (left) — "You end up a bit like a zombie."

Gentlemen, players and computers

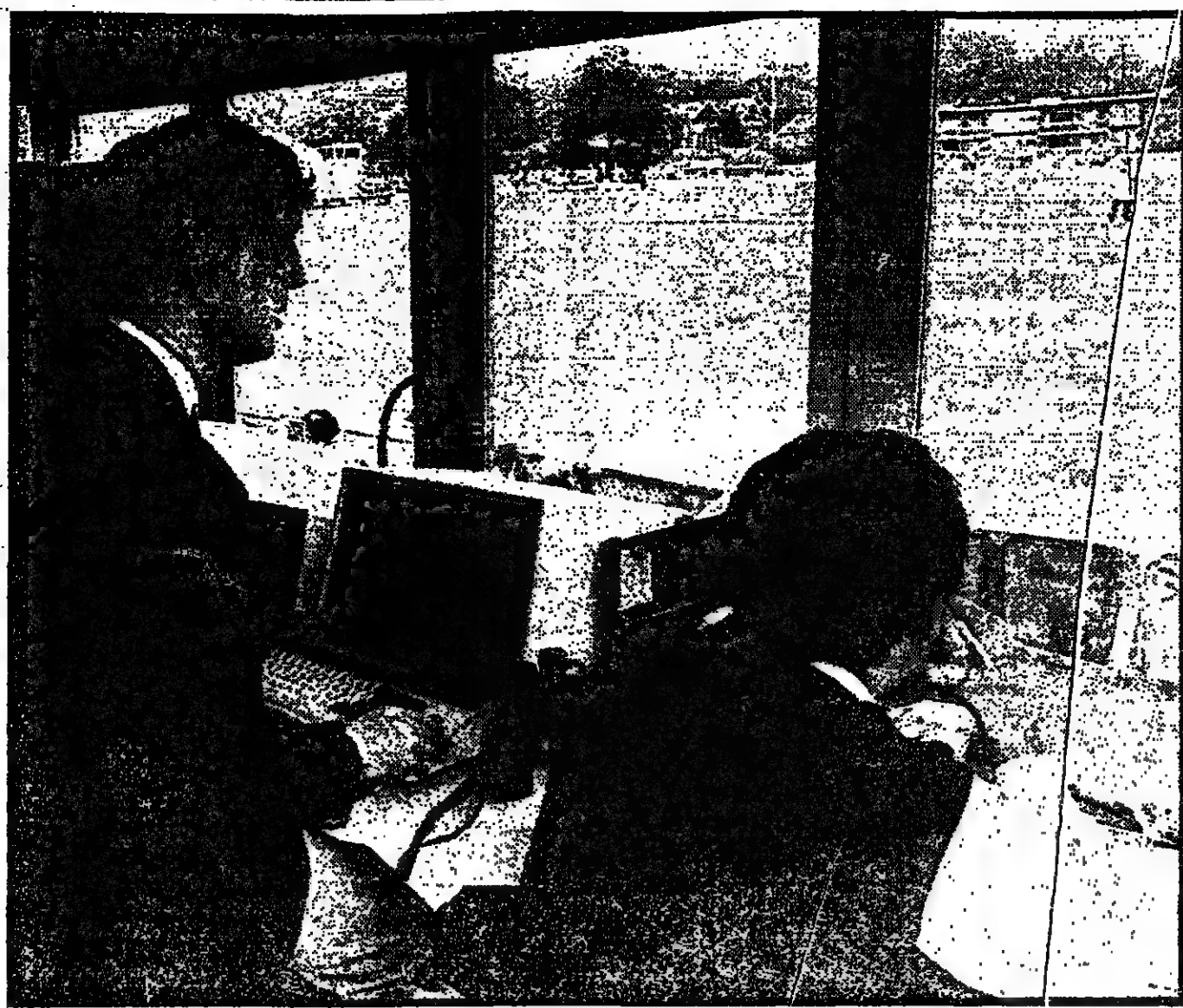
The electronic age has so far made little impression on cricket, in spite of television's successful involvement in statistic crunching. Peter Large investigates

library. But at home he is one up on Isaacs, using an ACT Apricot to master his records (though his girl friend, Paula Dixon, is the real systems manager).

The TV operation is in a different championship. It uses a Honeywell DPS 830 (min), carried in a van and cabled to terminals. It represents a sub-set of sports sponsorship. Honeywell supply the computers and the software free. In return they get 10 four-second screen men-

tions per day during Tests and one-day knockouts, and five mentions in Sunday league matches (That's why "Honeywell computer" was on screen so often on the final morning of the Lord's Test: the BBC had to get the quota in before Australia won).

The original driving force behind the idea was Ted Dexter, England captain of the 1960s, who now runs a sports marketing company. He raised the BBC's interest in



1978, then went in search of a computer hacker.

Dexter and his fellow TV pundit (particularly Richie Benaud) set the ground rules for the database, and the Cobol program was a three-month labour of love for Bill Wyon, a Honeywell programmer and cricket follower.

Honeywell also designed the black box that generates the graphics.

Dexter's firm keeps the database up to date with the overseas cricket through the winter, and every spring the program is revised. This year, for instance, the changes have had to accommodate the adding of no-balls and wides to a bowler's analysis.

The screen of the operator's terminal has three essential elements: the basic scoreboard, a menu of options, and the current score details of the batsmen at the wicket, paired with the analyses of the bowlers they are facing.

To the operator's left is a smaller screen displaying whichever statistical table is due next to be superimposed on the TV picture. To his right are two colour monitors, one constantly showing the cricket action, the other whatever is actually being broadcast at the time.

His keystrokes recording a run, a wicket, or a no-action dot immediately update all relevant sections of the database, altering not only the match statistics but the career records of the

players. The operator listens to the commentary as well as to the producer's instructions so that he can anticipate demands.

In addition, there are what the BBC people call the "book pages," a collection of about 400 screenfuls of more esoteric information, such as the lowest and highest Test totals and record partnerships for each wicket. The "book," too, is available on line.

The captions editor, Peter

Pickering, says that after a day of handling all that "you end up a bit like a zombie." There is a back-up service of manual captions, which is used for routine announcements. The theory is that this provides a typographical variety. The run-scoring diagrams drawn by the official TV scorer, Wendy Wimbush (who is computerless), are also reproduced manually. On Australian TV they are drawn on screen with a light pencil.

Tony Howard, the Honeywell man in charge, rejects the notion that it could all be done nowadays by a top range micro. Reliability and response times could not be maintained, he says. They did think of going on-line to a bureau, to avoid the necessity of carting a mini around, but decided that the line risks were too great.

Peter Thirby, of the software house MicroLogic, thinks a personal computer could cope. MicroLogic is based in the North London suburb of East Finchley, round the corner from the Frindall home, and Thirby wrote the program (in Database Two) for the Frindall Apricot a few months ago.

Thirby, for whom cricket is "a bit of a hobby," though he does not play, admits that his program is "a little bit slow." But it has to handle on floppy disks the records of 450 registered county players, including their detailed figures for every match they have played in.

Isaacs, on his home computer, has a slightly easier job. What he wants now is a portable to carry to matches that will talk to the equipment already in use. He is a prophet program than the one he has bought. He is doing some programming himself after a winter of evening classes.

He has tested some of the micro-scoring packages advertised in the cricket magazines (some, he says, are also being sold around Hampshire's grounds) but none yet match his ideal. Anyone with ideas should write to him at Hampshire County Cricket Club, Northlands Road, Southampton. He is a prophet needing honour in his own coteries.

LETTER:

No friend of Logo

Sir — We take strong exception to the misleading and inaccurate points made in the Micro Guardian letters of June 27 and request that they are publicly corrected.

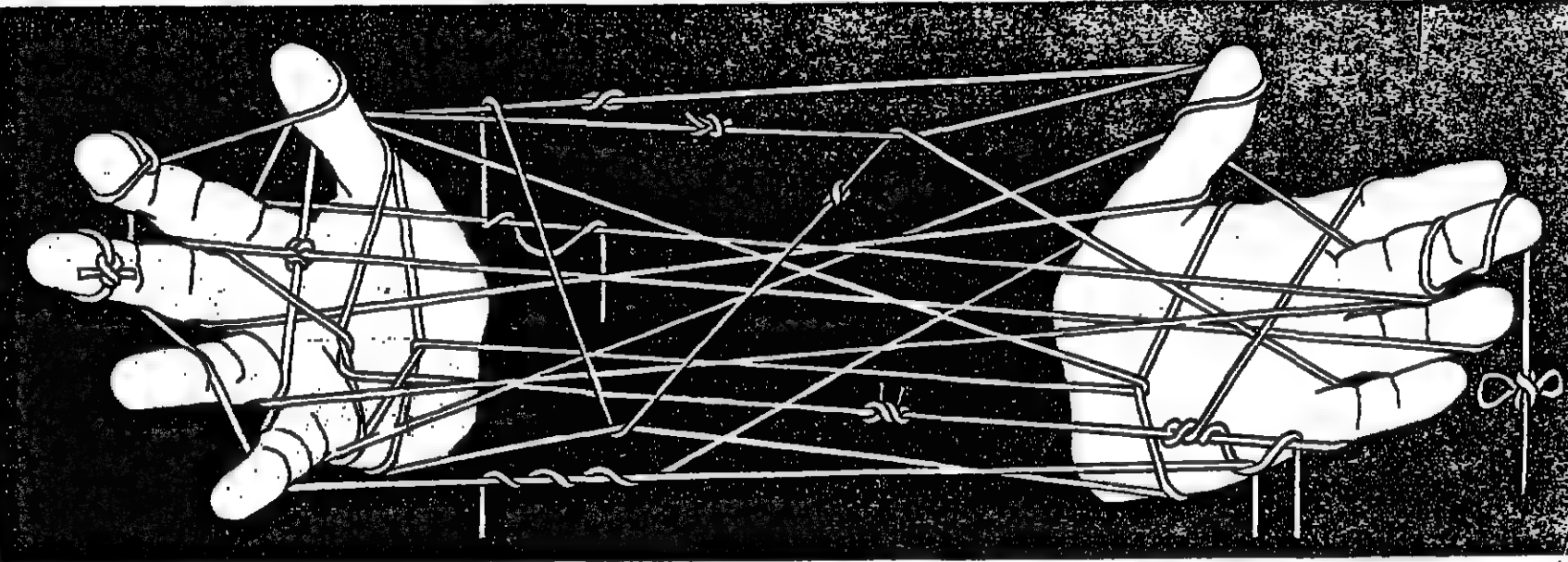
Borge Christensen wishes it to be known that he does not prefer Logo to Comal; and that he has never expressed such a preference. Any statements to the contrary are distortions of comments he has made and his name should never have been used to indicate support for Logo. He has expressed the view that he likes the turtle graphics facilities of Logo which are also available in most forms of Comal. Borge finds the list processing facilities of Logo have little to commend them and considers the syntax of the language a handicap. His preference is for Comal where an algorithmic approach is desired and where deductive results are sought.

The inference that Denmark has avoided adopting Comal is misleading. It is not the nature of the Danish authorities to make a declaration that any particular computer language shall be used in schools. In practice, however, it is very difficult to sell a computer to a Danish school unless it has Comal in the context of the joint working party recommendation must be kept firmly in mind. The Computing Studies course is essentially a practical one and the aim is to provide one computer between two (or at worst three) pupils. In order to implement Logo to an acceptable level it seems 16 a micro (which few state schools can afford) are needed. Comal is more efficient in its use of computer resources; implementations on 8 bit micros operate at an acceptable speed without the drawbacks noted about 8 bit Logos in the JWP report.

Efficiency is a major factor in the real world of computing and should not be ignored. Dartmouth Basic and BBC Basic are inadequate structures and with their well recognised deficiencies do not fulfil the requirements of the Secretary of State for "new process skills" and "creativity in forms of computer language." They are not the obvious contenders for those teachers, programmers, those teachers, programmers who have made a thorough investigation of the subject.

We do not consider that the teaching of computer programming, as such, should start at primary level at credit secondary stage at programming level, where more important becomes the language used (factor) to lead naturally into those used commercially or academically. In this context, Comal does lead somewhat better than Basic or even Pascal or Algol. Comal is Fortran and was developed not Basic and was developed to avoid exactly the pitfalls that Alvey has since highlighted.

Borge Christensen, Secretary, Comal Standardisation Group. John Clark, Comal Development Group. Peter Barkinshaw, Software Consultant, Tele-Nova AB. Roy Thornton, Director of Computing, Portsmouth Grammar School.



Drawing by Peter Clarke

The knots and strands of mathematical theory

Using four different routes, four groups of mathematicians have disentangled one of mathematics' knottier problems. Ian Stewart reports on a topic of topology

EVERY so often a scientific discovery is made independently by several people at much the same time. But few cases of multiple discovery are quite as striking as one that happened last October in pure mathematics. Within a period of a few days, no less than four independent groups in Britain and the US obtained the same results — a new technique in the theory of knots — and submitted announcements to the same scientific journals of the British and the American Mathematical Society. As they explain in a half-page footnote, the editors felt that any attempt to decide priority would be rather pointless: "There is enough credit for all to share in." Instead they persuaded the authors to write a joint paper outlining the main result, followed by four sections describing each group's point of view and methods.

There is a partial explanation of the coincidence. All four groups were stimulated to produce their work by the same discovery, published earlier this year by Vaughan Jones. Further, the Bulletin is the natural place for short new results. On the other hand, while the results are identical, each group obtained them by a completely different method.

Today knot theory occupies one corner of the new — and vast — area known as topology. Often characterised loosely as "rubber sheet geometry," topology studies the properties of an object that persist when it undergoes a continuous deformation. A three-inch doughnut can be stretched continuously into a ten-foot doughnut, so size is not a topological property. Nor is roundness: any competent topologist can squidge a round doughnut to make it square. But no topologist, however accomplished, can separate a doughnut from its hole. So holeyness is a topological property.

Similarly a knot retains its knottiness, however much it is

is distorted and stretched, compressed and twisted. Continuity is a fundamental property of Nature, and during the last decade topology has shed some of its abstract qualities and acquired important applications to physics, chemistry, and other branches of science. When the history of 20th Century mathematics is finally written, it will be seen as the Age of Topology.

Shakespeare, in Twelfth Night, said: "O time! Thou must untangle this, not I; 'Tis too hard a knot for me to untie."

Topologists have found the problems posed by knots pretty hard to untie too, and it is only with the aid of time that they have begun to disentangle the strands of a general theory. The practical man ties his knots in a rope that has ends; indeed if it weren't for the ends he would find the knot hard to tie, but the topologist has to get rid of the ends (otherwise the knot can escape by reversing the tying process). The simplest solution is to join the ends together, so that the rope forms an endless loop. Naturally it may not be joined using a knot, and some mathematical glue is used instead.

Two knots are equivalent (topologically the same) if one can be deformed into the other. This means that it is unwise to judge knots by appearances: it is possible to deform a knot into an equivalent one that looks very different. Imagine taking an unknotted loop and crumpling it up into a horrible tangle. The tangle looks knotted, but really it isn't (An exception may perhaps be made for the cords of electric lawnmowers, and usually is).

The three basic problems in knot theory are:

1. To decide if a given knot is knotted (or not);
2. To decide when two different knots are really the same (or not);
3. To list all possible knots.

The new discovery is a contribution to problem (2), with an indirect influence on (1) and (3).

Topologists usually represent a knot by its diagram, which is just a picture of the knot laid flat, with the crossings, neatly separated out. Any deformation of the knot produces changes in the

complicated process, starting with the knot diagram. The simplest knot of all, the overhand or trefoil knot, has polynomial $t^4 + 1$. The figure-eight knot has polynomial $t^4 - 1$. Since these are different, so are the knots. The reef knot, with polynomial $(t^2 + 1)^2$, is different from both. Sadly, the granny knot has the same polynomial as the reef, so Alexander's invariant isn't good enough to confirm that generations of Boy Scouts can't be wrong. Ever since, topologists have sought better invariants, able to distinguish more knots.

One problem that taxed topologists for years is to distinguish a left-handed trefoil from a right-handed one. The Alexander and Jones invariants can't do this, and the eventual solution to the problem used much more complicated ideas. The new invariant can tell the difference with ease. It can also tell a reef from a granny.

I mentioned that each discoverer uses quite different methods. Freyd and Yetter use algebraic arguments about braids. Hoste's argument is geometrical, related to Reidemeister's proof of the existence of knots. Lickorish and Millett use a proof that resembles Hoste's, but also introduces ideas due to Conway about tangles and skeins. Oeneanu's is related to Freyd and Yetter's, but includes ideas originating in classical number theory, and group representation theory, and is closer to Jones's treatment of his invariant. It is a tribute to the unity and richness of today's mathematics that all four approaches fit together so well, illuminating the same discovery from widely different viewpoints.

Most new discoveries in topology involve heavy use of "machinery," but this one does not. It is a "bare hands" idea that could perhaps have been found thirty years ago if someone had just happened to think about the problem the right way. ("I wonder what happens if we try two variables instead of one...") It's a comfort to mathematicians to know that progress doesn't always mean complication. Simple, but powerful ideas still lurk in the undergrowth, waiting for an unusually perceptive passer-by to notice them.

Ref: A new polynomial invariant of knots and links. Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society 12 (1985) 239-246.

Ian Stewart is Reader in Mathematics at the University of Warwick.

so. The discoverers are P. Freyd and D. Yetter (Pennsylvania, Clark); J. Hoste (Rutgers); W. B. R. Lickorish (UK, Santa Barbara); and A. Oeneanu (Berkeley). The invariants of Alexander and Jones are polynomials in a single variable t , but the new ones require two variables x and y . For the trefoil it is $x^2 - 2xy - y^2 - x^2 - y^2$ and for the figure-eight it is $x^2 - 1 - xy - 1 - x^2 - y^2$.

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Micros shed identity crisis

It's called the hardware trap. But there may be a way round it. Jack Schofield considers the multi-personality machine

ONE MAJOR problem with micros is that they can't run another's software. An Amstrad won't run programs written for the Acorn BBC B; an IBM PC won't run Spectrum games, and so on. Worse, sometimes even different machines from the same manufacturer can't share software: Sinclair's ZX-81, Spectrum and QL are all incompatible. So are Commodore's Vic 20, 64 and Plus4.

But this is changing. Many micros can now handle more than one type of software, which provides them with a sort of "multiple personality." And this looks like being the solution to an important development in the future.

One of the first machines to offer two personalities was the venerable Apple II. This used a 6502 chip with its own Apple operating system, but limiting buyers to Apple software. In order to run the CP/M operating system and WordStar, however, a Zilog Z-80 chip was required. The solution was to plug in a separate expansion card carrying a Z-80 with its own 64K of RAM. Today there are several such cards available. Fitting one provides the Apple with access to the CP/M software bases — Apple and CP/M — and thus the equivalent of two micros in one.

The IBM Personal Computer has a similar expansion system in that the main board has a number of free sockets or "slots" into which expansion cards can be fitted. One of the first was again, a Z-80 card to run CP/M software. More recent options include Intel 8086, 80186 and 80286 cards — all these chips are more powerful than the IBM PC's 8088.

IBM has produced a number of expansion cards itself, to extend the PC family. For example, a couple of extra cards with Motorola 68000 chips can be added to the IBM PC/XT — the hard-disk version of the PC — to produce the XT/370. This is a low-cost, desktop-sized single-user version of the massive IBM 370 mainframe computer. On the way are IBM PC and PC AT versions of the Series/1 minicomputer, constructed using the same technique.

Of course, not all micros can be expanded internally, but if there is an expansion bus — a port which provides access to the central processor — then external expansion is often possible. A good example is the Acorn BBC B. Separate boxes can be added to allow the use of alternative processors such as the Z-80, Intel 8086 and Motorola 68000.

Torch was the first company to market a Z-80 expansion for the BBC B, and also offers The Graduate, to provide compatibility, with the IBM PC. Acorn itself offers 6502 and Z-80 peripherals, with a National Semiconductor 62016 option due shortly. These add-ons formed the basis of Acorn's ABC range, shown last year (each model contained a BBC

B board with a piggy-backed expansion board to add a Z-80, an Intel 80286 or a Nat Semi 32016), but which now seem unlikely to be produced.

Unfortunately this technique is expensive, since each cpu card is virtually a whole new computer. The existing micro is reduced to acting as a terminal. Also, it does not help the software market much, since while many thousands of people may buy the standard micro, only a few will buy the expansion boxes.

There are three possible solutions. Either the expansion must be fully compatible with the alternative machine, so it can use the same discs, or the alternatives must be supplied as standard, or else all the emulation must be done in software.

Complete hardware compatibility is not as simple as adding an alternative cpu. Micros also have different disc controllers, different types of video display, different keyboard and mouse interfaces. Still, quite a lot can be managed if a powerful machine is designed to emulate less powerful ones. For example, the Dimension 68000 makes a 68000 emulator with a 68000 expansion card of running Apple II and IBM PC software. The problem is that usually someone with a simple micro wants to emulate a more expensive one — a BBC user wants to run IBM PC software, not vice-versa. This is much more difficult.

Supplying the "expansion" as standard is a better bet, to name but a few. Another drawback is that multi-personality hardware is likely to be more expensive than the simple single-micro type.

Software emulation is obviously the best, or, as it can be expanded internally, but the idea is that the loader of different operating system or version of Basic, one micro can run software written for another. But so far, only tentative steps have been taken along this route.

For example, Digital Research has launched a new version of 16-bit CP/M called Concurrent DOS. As well as running CP/PM 86 software, it can also, in "PC DOS mode," run certain programs written for the IBM PC.

Also, both Torch and Tating have Z-80 versions of Acorn's 6502-based BBC Basic, while ACT is about to launch an 8088 version for the Apricot micros. It is claimed this will run programs written for the Acorn BBC B.

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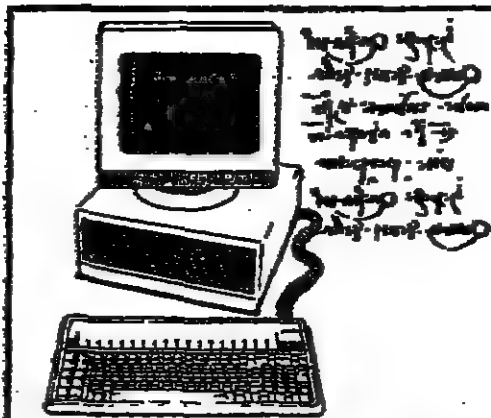
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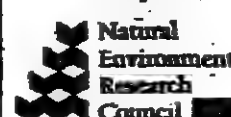
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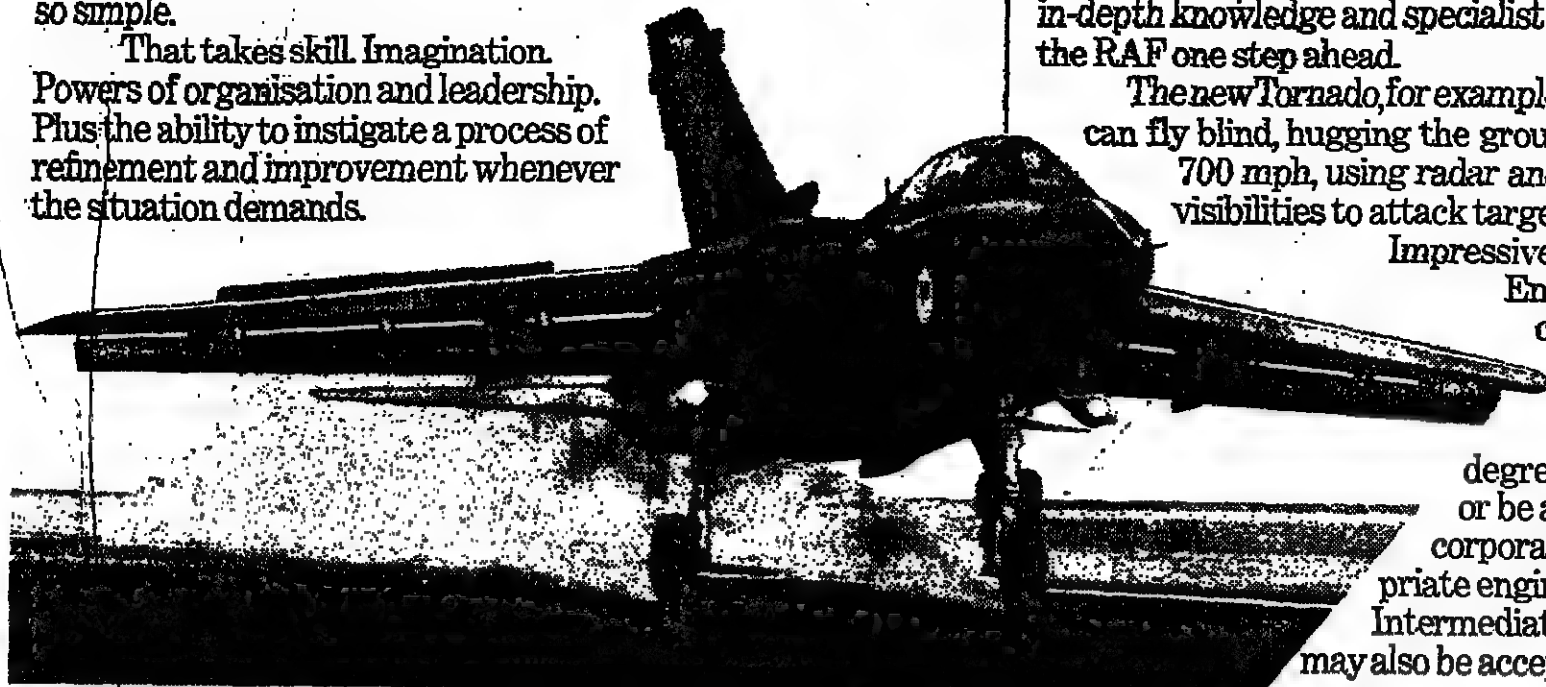
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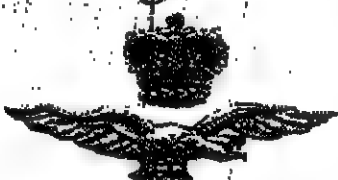
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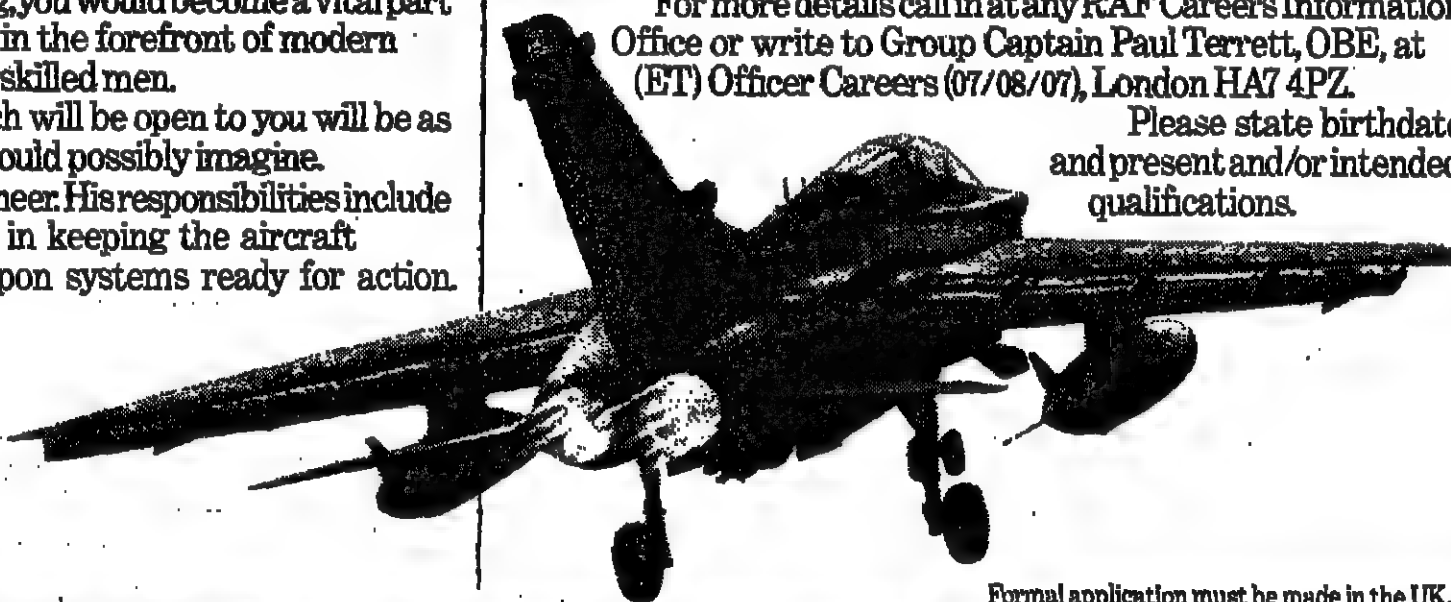
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Please state birthdate and present and/or intended qualifications.



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We want : to recruit the very best minds to play a vital part in our future. Whilst it is not necessary to have a degree in Computer Sciences it is essential to have a high level of business awareness and commitment coupled with the ability to tackle a wide variety of tasks. Therefore only graduates with high potential should apply.

We offer : immediate involvement with the latest technology covering projects from banking through to defence. Your career is important to us and you will be given sound training plus scope for working on projects overseas.

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Candidates should have worked in an industrial or university laboratory on fluid dynamics-related problems, preferably with experience in experimental rheology. A good honours degree in physics followed by post-graduate experience, which could include a PhD in a relevant topic, is essential.

The excellent remuneration package also includes a non-contributory pension scheme, on-site sports and social facilities, subsidised restaurant and relocation assistance, where appropriate.

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We are looking for someone with several years' materials control experience in an electronics manufacturing organisation. That should be supported by a good standard of education and high level of self motivation and interpersonal skills. Familiarity with MRP and computerised systems would also be useful.

Salary will be c. £11,500. Outstanding benefits will include relocation assistance where appropriate to this attractive area near Chipswode.

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You may decide to develop as a programmer or analyst, on mainframes or micros. You may decide to concentrate on software, applications, or you may opt for a management role. Whatever the future brings, you can be sure you will have all the support you need from Woolworth to make your career a success.

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Help us make the technology dream a reality at Woolworth. Contact: Jane Sadler, F.W. Woolworth plc., 242-246 Marylebone Road, LONDON NW1 6JL. Tel: 01-262 1222 Ext. 2422.

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We'll offer you a starting salary of at least £9,000 pa together with substantial bonus potential and a full range of benefits including 5 weeks holiday, discounts on company products, pension scheme, free life assurance and subsidised meals.

Please send a CV with full details including a current salary to the Personnel Department, WEA Records Limited, PO Box 59, Alpertons Lane, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 1FJ.



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Parsons Ltd

Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic

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The Company is committed to a programme of computer applications and developments and has invested heavily in this field.

The successful applicant will play a major role in further developments in computer-aided draughting and computer-aided manufacture. He/she will be tutored by senior members of the Company's Management Team and Newcastle Polytechnic Faculty of Engineering. In addition to gaining invaluable experience the candidate will have the opportunity to register for a Masters Degree in Engineering.

The post is financed jointly by the Science and Engineering Research Council, The Department of Industry and NEI Parsons Limited. The successful candidate will be employed by the Polytechnic throughout the two-year period as a Teaching Company Associate but will be considered for a staff appointment within NEI Parsons on completion of his/her two-year contract.

Salary range: Researcher 'A' £5,910 - £6,557 p.a.

Researcher 'B' £7,548 - £10,257 p.a.

Salary will depend on qualifications and experience. Applicants must possess a good honours degree in Engineering, Science, Mathematics or Computer Science - previous industrial experience is desirable but not essential.

This is a unique opportunity to obtain accelerated career development in this important field. For further information and application forms please call our 24-hour telephone answering service (0832 323125) or write enclosing a foolscap s.a.e. to: Mrs Linda Morris, Admin Asst (Recruitment), Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic, Ellison Building, Ellison Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8ST, to whom completed forms should be returned quoting the Ref by 25th July, 1985.

Computer Service Management

Keyworth, Nr Nottingham £12,357 - 16,462

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) Computing Service provides facilities and support for scientists working in a wide variety of applications including Oceanography, Geology, Hydrology, Environmental Research and Remote Sensing. The Council of NERC has recently approved a strategy for re-equipment of the Service on a distributed basis and a major procurement exercise will start shortly. The Service relies heavily on advanced networking concepts and users have access via terminals and work stations to a wide variety of computing equipment including services provided by universities and other Research Councils.

The NERC wishes to appoint a manager to supervise all aspects of the service provided to sites located in the North of England and Scotland. This will include responsibility for equipment and staff located at five sites and liaison with scientists at these and other locations. The successful applicant will report to the Head of NERC Computing Service based in Swindon.

This is an opportunity for a suitably qualified scientist or computer service specialist to move into computer management within the scientific research community.

The appointment will be made to the grade of Principal Scientific Officer. Salary range - £12,357 - 16,462. Removal expenses may be paid.

NERC is not a Government Department but pay and conditions of service are similar to the Civil Service. Further details and application forms to be returned by 18 July 1985 are available from Mrs S Purkis (tel. 0783 40101 Ext. 523), NERC Scientific Services, Holbrook House, Station Road, Swindon, Wilts. SN1 1DE. Please quote ref. MP 91.



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- supporting overseas exploitation of British Gas gasification technology.

Applications are invited from recent Honours graduates or those with several years experience preferably from within a research and development environment. Application forms can be obtained from the Senior Personnel Officer, British Gas Corporation, Midlands Research Station, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2JW, quoting ref. MRS/535.

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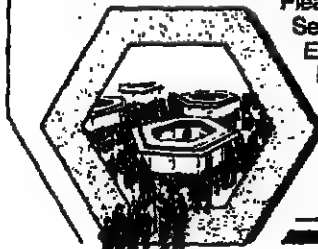
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We are offering a starting salary in the region of £11,000 - £15,000, depending on experience, together with an attractive benefits package.

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The attractive remuneration package includes relocation expenses to the rural Midlands, together with other major Company benefits.

Male/female candidates should contact Michael Biggs at the address below, or on 0246 36131 in the evenings or at weekends. Local interviews will be held wherever possible.

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Appointment as Senior Scientific Officer.

There is also a similar vacancy for a Scientific Officer/Higher Scientific Officer.

You should have a good honours degree in a numerate subject and relevant post graduate experience (at least 4 years for appointment as Senior Scientific Officer and at least 2 years for Higher Scientific Officer).

Salary: Senior Scientific Officer £7700-£12,650; Higher Scientific Officer £7785-£10,540; Scientific Officer £6190-£8560.

RELOCATION EXPENSES MAY BE AVAILABLE.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 2 August 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

Please quote ref: SB/HDC.

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Scientific Civil Service

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The Programming Research Group specialises in the study of mathematical methods for the design and development of computer programs and hardware.

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Research Officers

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Some of the posts will be on the scale RAL (£11,505-£14,925 per annum) and others on the scale RALA (£7,620-£12,160 per annum). All appointments will be for a limited duration, two years in most cases.

Further particulars are available from Professor C. A. R. Hoare, F.R.S., Oxford University Computing Laboratory, 8-11 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3QD, to whom applications, including the names of three referees, should be sent to arrive not later than 8th August, 1985.

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Or write to: Personnel and Training Department, Tandy Corporation (Branch U.K.), Tarnway Tower, Bridge Street, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 1LA.

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If you are interested in this position, please write to me with details of your experience and qualifications to: Mr. J. H. Smith, Slough Corporation, Town Hall, Bath Road, Slough SL1 3QD. Closing date: 10th July 1985. Slough Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ENGINEERS Knutsford, Cheshire

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NUCLEAR STEAM SUPPLY SYSTEM Second Engineers — Three posts

The vacancies are within the sections of the Group involved with the Project Management of the provision of Primary Circuit Components, RPP inspection arrangements, inspection validation, fuel and core/fuel interfacing equipment and services. Duties include the specification of requirements, the co-ordination of the contract implementation, the processing of engineering interfacing data and contractual documentation. Applicants should also be conversant with Process System Design, general requirements of Nuclear Plant and the application of Quality Assurance.

Candidates should be experienced in the Project Management activities of co-ordinating specialist efforts establishing, testing and controlling contract documentation; monitoring contractor progress.

An ability to work efficiently in a changing and challenging environment with a group of highly motivated specialists is essential.

It is desirable that applicants should possess qualifications that would lead to Chartered Engineer status. Quote reference SVH 106885.

ELECTRICAL Second Engineer

The successful applicant will be required to handle contracts for electrical plant, support mechanical engineers in electrical aspects of mechanical work, develop process system design and implement the requirements for plant Qualification and Quality Assurance. In addition the post holder will be required to analyse electrical systems for reliability, availability and safety both nuclear and industrial.

It is desirable that applicants should possess qualifications that would lead to Chartered Engineer status. Quote reference SVH 106885.

PROGRAMMES Second Engineer, Third Engineer

The successful applicants will prepare and maintain plans for the design, procurement, erection and testing of the works, plant and equipment required for completion of the Power Station Project. The job holders will be required to interact with a multi discipline engineering staff, draw plans in network and other formats; use scheduling software for network analysis on both the CEGB's main frame computer and local PCs and prepare reports.

Candidates should have experience in Power or Process Plant in a planning role and be familiar with the latest techniques in computerised CPN analysis. They should hold Chartered Engineer status or academic qualifications that would lead to corporate membership having obtained the necessary experience. Quote reference SVH 106885 (Second Engineer) or SVH 106885 (Third Engineer).

These appointments will be made within the following ranges according to the successful applicants' qualifications and experience.

Second Engineer Grade: £11,524 to £15,295 per annum

Third Engineer Grade: £8,868 to £12,598 per annum

Application forms, obtainable from the Personnel Branch, Central Electricity Generating Board, Generation Development and Construction Division, Barnet Way, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7PS (0452) 652230 or 653085 should be completed and returned within 15 days of this advertisement. Envelopes and correspondence should be marked 'Confidential' and quote the appropriate vacancy title and reference number.

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CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD
GENERATION DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

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Starting salary (under review) according to qualifications and experience from £6905 to £9035 for those aged under 26 and from £9035 to £9945 for those 26 and over. You should be earning at least £9565 after 2 years and, 3 years later, you should be on a scale rising from £13,525 to £18,360. If you fulfil your promise, you should later be on a scale rising to £22,925. Beyond this there are opportunities for further promotion to the most senior grades in the Civil Service. SALARIES HIGHER IN LONDON. Training can usually begin at an office in the area of your choice.

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Please quote ref: A/35/329/126.

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The group is progressive and offers real prospects for individual growth. There is a first class benefits package which includes generous relocation assistance where appropriate. Contributory Pension Fund, Bonus and Employee Share Option Scheme.

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It's a challenge that will stretch your technical ability and offer you the scope to realise your career aspirations—an enthusiastic design environment that utilises the latest techniques at the leading edge of advanced engineering.

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INFORMAL INTERVIEWS
Wednesday 17 July, 4pm – 8pm

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22 HOLLAND PARK, LONDON W11

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Appointments continue on page 27

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Quoting ref: 92/85.

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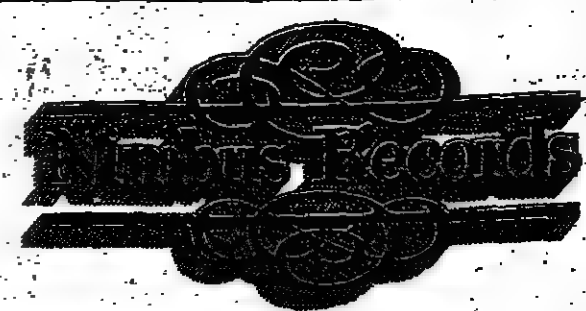


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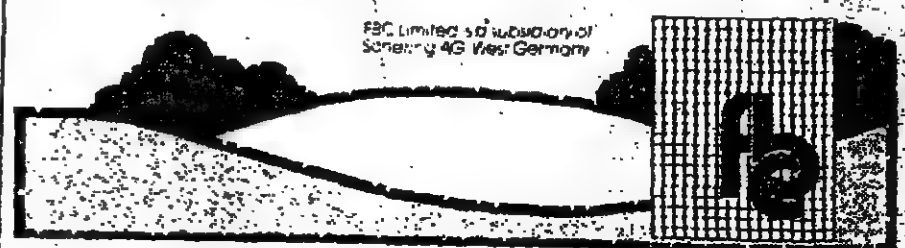
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DIARY

SOUTH BANK SHOW staff have been editing some hurried re-editions of the show's summer youth arts festival. They are having to chop out the winners now it's been discovered that the first prize for writing went to a boy who had copied out a story from the Judge Dredd comic strip.

The 11-year old plagiarist was part of the Stockwell Park Youth Club team from South London which had won the regional heats and finals to emerge as this year's victors in dance, painting, music and writing. The writing was judged by Miss Beryl Bainbridge.

It was only after the show had been filmed that the child of another producer spotted the derivative nature of the story. The boy eventually admitted the debt he owed to a collection of Judge Dredd science fiction stories published by Titan: the youth club withdrew, the second team was promoted, the film was duly amended.

LWT is philosophical: "Kids will be kids," said a spokesman, "but I'm afraid we don't have a Tom Keating Award." The youth club is disappointed. "The kids had worked six hours a day for four months to win this award," said the club's coordinator, Mel Nixon. "The other kids are crushed by what's happened and some of them don't want to have anything to do with the boy involved. I don't know why he did it. He's apologetic and is very upset. We've already had people ringing up to cancel bookings on the strength of this."

Nick Landau of Titan Books was unsurprised. "The Judge Dredd series is very well-written. I've seen people reading it in Hampstead wine bars."

CHRIS BUTLER, the Tory candidate at Brent and Radnor, was as witty in defeat as he had been during his campaign. Asked by a journalist how he felt after the result, he remarked: "How would you feel if you had been defeated by someone with the personality of a cowpat? Who did he mean?"

ONE of the West Country's more notable eccentrics is Mr. Miles Robertson, a millionaire store owner who likes to preface his half-page adverts for Trago Mills goods in the local paper with a personal editorial on the state of society. Try a sample from his latest tract: "The selection of special offers in Falmouth and Newton Abbot: 'Criminal violence and brutality will only be controlled when it is met with legalised brutality—the policeman's truncheon, the court's birch and even in the most disgusting of cases, by a merciless flogging... dye the hair of thieves bright blue and thugs red... if they do not conform in every way to a human being, they are to be treated as a dog and shot or the end... boxing should be reintroduced into all schools... In this area Mrs T has failed us badly...'"

Oh, and, by the way, there's 17 per cent off three-piece suits.

WELCOME to the Ulph twins, David and Alistair, 38. They were both at Glasgow University together. They both progressed to Balliol. They were both economics lecturers at Sterling University. Then David let the side down by going off to become a Professor of Economics at Bristol. But worry not, Alistair is now a senior lecturer in the Department of Economics at Southampton University.

NEVER MIND Mr Norman Lamont and his bruised eye: what of Mr Nigel Dempster? Mr D was back at his column's helm yesterday treating his readers to a version of the Mr Lamont tale that was strangely incomplete — it named the assailant, but not the lady at the centre of the intrigue. This is because the lady is the daughter of Lord Forte, and the Daily Mail's editor, Sir David, is sensitive about the Forte family, the wake of recent litigation.

How long Mr Dempster will remain at the Mail is open to question. "I'm here for the time being, simply because it would be unfair to walk out overnight," he said yesterday. "But my horizons have been widened. I am aware of wider opportunities." He has, for example, been talking to Mr Rupert Murdoch's cohorts and is keen to fix a meeting with the boss himself this week about the possibility of a syndicated column.

As for poor old Mr Lamont, "Sir David has very generously apologised for not consulting the story and is content that we should run the full version, without protecting anyone."

Alan Rusbridger

Alliance in extra-time goalmouth melee

COMMENTARY
Hugo Young

ing events and all sports grounds. It gives the police even more than their present discretion to determine who is drunk. It contains confusions which will detain the lawyers for years.

The most vexed question, and most farcical prospect, arose directly from the backstage deal. The Labour people insisted that directors' boxes and the suites bought by companies for business entertaining should be included in the alcohol exclusion zone. This not merely creates problems of definition. It provoked a split among the all-party habitues of directors' boxes.

This may seem a small dilemma. It may even be thought that by hitting club directors in their creature comforts, Parliament is for the first time targeting the

people most to blame for the shocking state of the national game. The all-party agreement, however, swept away any possibility of considering the practicalities. The committee stage of the bill took place, in effect, in the Home Secretary's smoke-filled office.

Nor is this the only deal done in that quarter in recent days. Cruising at a more leisurely pace through Parliament is the Representa-

tion of the People Bill, a portmanteau measure tidying up several aspects of the conduct of elections. This bill, too, one on which the Government has been anxious to secure all-party, or at least Labour Party, acquiescence, not least because otherwise Mr Kaufman threatened to disrupt the entire legislative programme by interminably amending it.

One much-disputed section of the bill concerns the right to vote of British nationals living abroad. Labour would rather none of them had the vote. The Government would ideally give it to all of them, so more militantly would the SDP-Liberal Alliance. In the end, a compromise was struck which conceded the vote for five years after an elector has left the country.

One small category within this general group are the British employees of the European Community. As part of the deal with Labour, the Government agreed to make an exception for them. But in the Lords a Conservative peer, Lady Elles, got an amendment

passed against this deal, providing that Community employees could have the vote indefinitely. Even the Labour peers were persuaded to support it.

Left to itself, the Government would not have interfered with this Lords decision. But it was displeasing to the Labour leadership. Their peers had not toed the party line.

There is a conflict of evidence about what happened next. But the fact is that the Lords amendment is no longer in the bill.

This kind of story, of course, is the stuff of parliamentary politics. The usual channels exist for no other purpose. But do such deals always work in the public interest? And how do the actions of the players in the game measure up to their words?

Plainly, the deal over the Sporting Events Bill has produced a mess. It was essentially a piece of protective all-party cowardice. As a harbinger of the new politics, also it carries an ambiguous message. It shows that even those most scorn-

ful of backstage dealing readily engage it when it suits them: which may indicate that the coalition process, if it becomes obligatory, will prove more congenial to them than many leading politicians now admit. But it also shows that anything like an all-party agreement — as the two big parties even now would sometimes like to construct against the Alliance — has an invariable tendency to corrupt.

There is, however, one other signal, to show that virtue in these matters is no one party's possession. Originally, today was to be the only day the Lords spent on the Sporting Events Bill. That was part of the deal. But on Tuesday the Government managers were pressed by the SDP-Liberal peers to grant a second day. These managers think this curious, coming from the Alliance, the arch-exponents of coalition politics and the deals which go with it. How instructive, they reflect, that it should be the Liberals and the SDP who, when it suits them, are prepared to break an agreement.

The trial of the 'Newham Seven' finished yesterday. DAVID ROSE examines tensions in the London borough where communities live in racial fear

Newham, the powder keg set to blow

Supporters of the Newham Seven confront the police outside the Old Bailey. Picture by Lynn Hilton

IN Newham on a midsummer Wednesday, well before dawn, near the junction of Barking Road and High Street North, two of the area's busiest thoroughfares, three Asian men in their late thirties are attacked by a much larger group of white youths. The attack is brutal, the police say. The three Asians are taken to hospital. One is badly hurt; his face is split open by a bottle, an eye closed by the heavy end of a pool cue. The gang then, under the eyes of other Asians who call out to policemen in a car opposite the pub.

Later, two men are arrested and charged, but witnesses claim that at first the police only managed to break up the fight, allowing the main body of the gang to escape. As the attackers run, along the Barking Road they shout racist abuse to Asians on the pavement.

Within minutes the news has been relayed to Asians meeting inside the town hall and they gather on the corner opposite the police station. Silently, a police cord slips into place: district support unit vans, constables, and senior officers surround the Asians, and one or two who move among them are besieged with questions: "Why are you bothering with us? We aren't causing trouble, why aren't you going after the racists?"

Soon there are nearly 100 Asians, hemmed in by the crash barriers on the road-side. Bahadur Khan, a strong, heavily-built 22-year-old turns to me and says: "This is racial tension, isn't it, that's what you papers call this racial tension... are you a racist? I don't attack you because you're a racist, but if I could spot racists by looking at them I would attack them. But they can always tell us up and down our skins, and that doesn't change."

Khan and other Asians had just left a meeting of the campaign organised in defence of the so-called Newham Seven, whose trial ended yesterday. Khan was one of the 'Seven' — seven of the 11 Asians who were found themselves in the Old Bailey dock after a series of inter-racial confrontations in Newham on April 7, 1984, culminating in an affray outside another local pub, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Long before the trial began — it lasted seven weeks and has cost upwards of £500,000 — it was clear that the case had become almost entirely symbolic. The Newham Seven campaign had established it as a landmark in the history of both the relationship between races and that between blacks and the police. The campaign, with its demonstrations and pickets, has led to further cases after numerous arrests and allegations that the police have dispersed protests with excessive force.

On the most recent incident in a vigil held by the campaign outside the Old Bailey was broken up by police, and 34 arrests were made.

emerged that the original affray outside the Duke of Edinburgh, which was in comparison with other incidents meriting trials of such length and cost — was trivial. It lasted for perhaps two minutes. Missiles were thrown and windows broken, but no one was hurt.

In a speech to the defence campaign meeting this summer, shortly before the attack outside brought it to a close, Umesh Desai, a worker with the Newham Monitoring Project, a Council-funded body which deals with racial attacks, expressed the symbolic nature of the trial: "It's not just the Newham Seven that's on trial, but the whole community. It's not the case, but the issues."

The defence campaign, in which Desai also played a key role, and the three most politicised of the defendants, Bahadur Khan and his next-door neighbour Zafar Khan, aged 17 and 18, did not dispute the main facts of the case.

They agreed with prosecuting counsel Michael Kallisher QC that the Asian community regarded the Duke of Edinburgh as the "font" for a series of violent racial attacks. They believed that the pub was the base for, and might still be sheltering, a gang which carried out a series of assaults operating from a silver Ford Granada car.

The court heard how five Asians were kidnapped in turn and dragged into the back of a van when they were set about with a claw hammer bought especially for the purpose. One boy was taken to the open Wansted Flats and held inside the pub. One of those attacked gave evidence that he had seen one of his assailants playing a vigorous part in the later affray at the pub.

But the central question was the justification or otherwise of the Asians' belief, which Kallisher conceded was strong and deeply rooted, that the police would not pursue the Granada gang with speed or vigour.

The court heard that two men were charged for the Granada attacks, but they were not arrested for a year. Police witnesses said that this was because of difficulty in tracing them because there were three Granadas with the same numberplate. But Bahadur Khan said that months earlier he told police the name of one of those charged: eventually, after spotting him on a hospital visit and checking details at the end of his bed.

As the details of the extent of racial attacks and alleged police indifference to the case came to be expressed in the defence campaign's slogan: "self defence, no offence."

As the crowd gathered after the campaign meeting disappeared Bahadur Khan said: "Asians don't go to pubs here, right, because if they do they get abused; they don't go to clubs because if they do they might get bladed down. Get out. They only go to the Wimpy Bar."

"See this crowd here, that's how our case started, how the Newham Seven began, there'd been attacks on Asians and word got round. The Asians had to do something about it. I'm not going into the witness box to say I wasn't there, that I didn't throw stuff, because I did. I was defending my community, whether they find me guilty or not."

Khan followed suit. All three knew that without this admission the evidence against them was weak, resting on dubious photographic identification. They were convicted of affray yesterday.

None are angels. Like most of the Asian defendants, the three Khans have several previous convictions, mostly for theft, burglary, and taking and driving away motor vehicles. Bahadur Khan has also been convicted of assault and possession of offensive weapons, although he maintains his innocence of these charges, saying that he had been taking part in a peaceful demonstration and was picked out at random.

They do not conform to the stereotypical picture of the cowed Asian victim. They are tough-looking, dressed fashionably, and like to go uptown to the hipper boutiques in the West End. But they have brown skins. Bearing that burden, these ordinary Cockneys with an average share of vice and virtue have been transformed into defendants of their community.

Like most Asian youths in the area, the Newham Seven know what it is like to be on the receiving end of a racist attack. Bahadur Khan had possibly the worst experience. When he was 14 he was attacked by a gang of whites on his way home from school. They broke his elbow, forcing him to miss nine months of education and undergo a series of painful operations: "I was quite brainy, you know, doing six O-levels and all that... but instead I ended up with four CSEs." When he returned to school, he began to react to racist taunts, incurring the wrath of his headmaster who suspended him. "This head teacher said to me, 'Paki isn't a term of abuse, only a shortened form of 'Pakistani' which is what you are... Jesus!'"

It does not take long to discover how unexceptional such events are for young Asians growing up in Newham. At the Kensington Youth Club, used only by Asians and Afro-Caribbeans,

not a single one of those present last week — about 70 in all — had not been subjected to some form of attack. Most shrugged when asked and said: "Of course! What do you expect?"

Some attacks are ferocious. Imran Khan, now aged 30, was dragged into the stairwell of a multi-storey car park when he was 16 and beaten senseless. "After that I was scared to go out at all for many months. My sister used to call me a sissy."

Farooq Mohammed, aged 17, lifts his shirt to show the scar from a stab wound in his chest two years ago: "Yeah, I got away, maybe they thought I was dead. That ended my friendship with white people."

Uma Bhugiat, a vivacious, pretty girl of 17, described how 18 months ago her family was attacked as they sat watching television at home. "There were about 20 of them, and we heard this great banging on the door. We phoned the police but they didn't come: all our windows were smashed and my brother was hit by a sledgehammer. After that, my parents placed so many restrictions on me... we've got shatter-proof windows now."

All the available statistics — and it is agreed that the great majority of attacks are never reported — show a steady rise in the number of racial attacks in Newham. The Newham Monitoring Project recorded 93 in 1984 which it classed as serious, involving injury, damage to property, or psychological suffering. The prosecution in the trial agreed that police figures showed an increase of nearly 50 per cent in 1984 over 1983, although this may have been affected by a change in the system of classifying attacks by the CID.

Newham had the highest National Front vote in the country in the 1983 General Election. They polled 2300 in the three constituencies in the borough taken together, reaching nearly 4 per cent in Newham South. The proportion of Asians has grown steadily, and in some streets is now above 70 per cent. There at least, racial attacks are rare.

Implicit in all this is the claim, made so often by the Newham Monitoring Project, that the police fail to respond to such attacks.

The relationship between young Asians and the police is now so poor that most attacks are not reported. If the police have improved their response, they are seldom given the chance to demonstrate this.

The rhetoric used by the Newham Monitoring Project and other bodies dismissed the potential of the police. Detective Inspector Newman, based at Forest Gate, the station which handled the Newham Seven case, is an officer who commands respect even from the most critical Asian organisations. It is clear that he pays more than lip service to the notion of racial equality and freedom from harassment.

He said: "I really do wish that the young Asians would begin to bring their problems to us. We are trying: but sometimes they don't even want to realise this."

At a policy level, there have been important changes which suggest that the police are becoming more aware of the problem and taking steps to deal with it. All assaults where the victim alleges a racial motive are now dealt with by the CID and classed as racial attacks, the possible factor behind the rising statistics. But changes in thinking at higher levels may take time to be reflected by constables on the ground.

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The Duke of Edinburgh's management has changed since the incident in April 1984, and although, as the court heard, there was a further attack launched from there in September last year when a gang with pool cues began setting about Asian passers-by, there were Asians inside having a drink last week.

So was one of the white defendants in the Newham Seven case, Stuart Young, whose brother Scott gave evidence against the Asians but who has also been charged, as the court heard, with offences following from the September pool cue attack.

If at one level there is segregation — all this talk over the last 20 years about racial harmony is bullshit," according to Umesh Desai — on another, the walls of the Asian ghetto are physically closing in.

South of the Barking Road, Canning Town and Plaistow are seen as no-go areas: marked off by barriers outside which Asians, even in broad daylight, are not safe. While the case was in progress at the Old Bailey, one youth was stabbed in the head in High Street South at the peak of the Saturday shopping rush hour.

In these areas, Newham Council has been besieged with requests for transfers to the area seen as safe, the ghetto around High Street North. There the proportion of Asians has grown steadily, and in some streets is now above 70 per cent. There at least, racial attacks are rare.

They claim that an attempt is being made to "criminalise" Asian youth in Newham in the same way as blacks were allegedly criminalised in Brixton. To back his claim, Zafar Khan displayed 30 forms telling him to produce his monitoring documents in a two-month period last year. Bahadur Khan said that "once they know you, they never leave you alone." Parvais Khan had, before this case, been acquitted at the Old Bailey four times most recently in a case where the judge threw out charges of conspiring to steal Kentucky fried chickens. The police point out that it is precisely those youths who are most active politi-



Sold to the chandeller on the left...



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Sybil Bedford reviews a new biography of Radclyffe Hall, champion of the 'tragic invert'

Grand old English gentleperson

Our Three Selves. A Life of Radclyffe Hall, by Michael Baker (Hamish Hamilton, £13.95).

THE life and attitudes of John Radclyffe Hall are an object lesson to any woman or man of whatever sexual or social inclination. In not taking one's life too seriously, but, goodness, they did — John and her great love and fellow homo-eroticist, Una Troubridge: two formidable women, shingled and monocled, wrote Havelock Ellis, "dogmatic, hard-willed earnest in opinions and pursuits, riders to hounds, defenders of the Faith (Catholics, converted), attendants at spiritualist seances, distributors of recruitment leaflets in the 1914 war, sticklers for correct dress-clothes and country tweeds, pillars of the RSPCA, admirers of Mussolini ("for reasons of class and religion John and Una instinctively sympathised with the Fascists"), breeders of pedigree dogs, regulators of servants.

In her forties, having published some poetry and four novels, The Unlit Lamp, Adamantly and earnestly to tone and subjects, well-selling, well-received (by the general, not the highbrow public), Radclyffe Hall decided after much heart-searching to write a novel about homosexuality or "inversion". As she preferred to call it, in women, a subject which she believed had never been seriously treated in fiction before. She was con-

vinced, in Una Troubridge's words, that such a book could only be written by a "tragic invert, who alone would be qualified to speak on behalf of a misunderstood and misjudged minority."

Una told her to write what was in her heart, that she herself was "sick of ambiguities and only wished... to dwell with her in the palace of truth." Hence The Well of Loneliness. It came out in what we now regard, in this context, as the Dark Ages, in 1928. Radclyffe Hall forbade her publisher to cut a single word.

I have treated it [love between women] as a fact of nature — a simple thing, at present tragic but, while I refused compromise in any way, I think I have avoided all unnecessary coarseness.

She had. The book also, turned out, nearly-mouthed, bathetic, flat. A sentimental bore. To recall two samples: "What is honour, my daughter?" Sir Philip Gordon asks Stephen, the lesbian heroine. "You are honour," she replies. And the one explicit line which fuelled all the flurries: when Stephen has tried in vain to suppress her love for a pure young girl, they fall tearfully into each other's arms, "and that night they were not divided."

So far, so innocuous. But the novel was the subsequent court case and banning of the novel came all right. As other sex scandals so-called before or since, it began in the British Press. Banner head-

line in the Sunday Express: A BOOK THAT MUST BE SUPPRESSED. The "evil" though was not allowed to speak its name in newspaper, the reporting was as euphemistic as the book itself. "I have seen the plague stalking shamelessly through great social assemblies," wrote the editor, James Douglas.

I would rather give a healthy boy, or a healthy girl a phial of prussic acid than this novel. Poison kills the body, but moral poison kills the soul.

Aldous Huxley publicly challenged Douglas to carry out his choice, offering to provide him with a copy of The Well of Loneliness, a phial of prussic acid and reward of £30. Drowes of writers, Arnold Bennett, A. P. Herbert, the Woolfs, E. M. Forster volunteered to go into the witness box in combat against philistinism and censorship grinding their teeth in private — they did not like the book.

They did not much like the author. Virginia Woolf found her vain, shrill as a gull and self-obsessed. Indeed, the silliness and bigotry of the prosecution (the chief magistrate argued that the book was making the practice of unnatural vice appear respectable) inflated the same defects in Radclyffe Hall: from then on she took up the role of martyr and confessor, champion of the "tragic invert."

Extraordinary Women, Compton Mackenzie's amusing satirical novel about the foibles of the lesbian colony on Capri was published in the

same year as The Well with-out-let or hindrance. Radclyffe Hall's life was not a happy one, although with externals — houses, travel, clothes, possessions, dogs and horses — were hauntingly upholstered by always having a good deal of money. Her childhood was wretched, an absentee father, an ill-tempered and unloving mother; her health uncertain.

While her instincts were to live like a paternalistic English country gentleman, her gender and sexuality turned her into a charade. She was liable to immense pangs of guilt, made a dogma out of sacrifice and self-sacrifice, and held herself as well as a vocational great artist as well as a vocational homosexual. Her religiosity, high-mindedly, appears not far short of nauseating. She, and Una, coldly neglected Una's only daughter who had to live under their while a child, and desired to persuade the girl to call her "Uncle." She was entirely without humour.

There were good sides. She showed compassion to the helpless, she was very good to animals, she gave to the poor, she bore a long and painful illness with exceptional fortitude and courage.

Yet I could only read this biography with mounting exasperation, and boredom. It has done its best — scrupulous about sources (chiefly Una's flow of diaries); fairness of approach, though he cannot quite disguise that he hardly

likes his subject any better than does his reader, avoidance of psychoanalytical gibberish — but it is a pedestrian best. The book is far too long for one thing, clogged with banalities, stylistic and factual. Radclyffe Hall cries out for the sharp treatment by a pen like Lytton Strachey.

He has made, however, Una Troubridge spring back to life for me again. One post war autumn in Florence I spent some months at the same hotel with her (oh, by the way, lunching at Camilla's, playing a game of scrabble over Ciano in the evenings).

I never met a more self-righteous woman. It was some five years after John's death, when she was 70, and she was, I am sorry, yet there was something very hard about her and it wasn't just the stiff collar and the monocle; she made it quite clear that she was now the guardian of the shrine and the pontiff of the inverts. She bristled with a rare combination of Edwardian arrogance and doler-than-doubt, went to early mass every morning (in the bitter dawn), was rather good company, intelligent about music and Italian art, preposterous about politics, anguished about the Jews and a source of much amusement.

She told a lesbian without a tie to her shirt "to beware of living a lie," she referred to male friends as "our weaker brethren," and to The Well as scripture. I wonder whether she or John would have realised the irony of it being read a year or so ago as A Book at Bedtime.



Wilson Harris

Black Orpheus

by Hilary Bailey

The Guyana Quartet, by Wilson Harris (Faber, £12.95). Carnival, by Wilson Harris (Faber, £10.95).

"THE strangest figure he had ever seen appeared in the opening of the bush, dressed in a flannel vest, flapping ragged fins of trousers on his legs. Fenwick could not help fastening his eyes on the bottomless gauge and river of reflection. He wanted to

laugh at the weird sensation but was unable to do so. The old man's hair was white as wool and his cheeks — covered with curling rings — looked like an unkempt sheep's back. The wooden snake of skin peeping through the animal's blanket was wrinkled and stitched together incredibly."

This is Wilson Harris describing the arrival of the old river dweller at the end of the survey team in his brilliant short novel The Day Readers, published as one of a collection of four, all set in his native Guyana. A new wave of Caribbean literature appears simultaneously begins and ends in London, but the core of the book lies in the same magical Caribbean landscape.

The prose is dense, alive, highly metaphorical, and the general impression is of narrative carried forward by a strong poetical impulse. It works by making the meaning pile up, not from sentence to sentence, but over whole paragraphs. The effect is often like standing close to a painting where you can see patches of colour, then moving back until the whole image comes into view.

It must be said that in Carnival, the new novel, which begins with the death of a central character and ends with the birth of his child, the technique is taken to its uttermost, and the myth becomes too impacted and too personified, making the novel sometimes hard to understand. But there's no doubt that the whole body of work is gifted and extraordinary.

Versions of irony

A Perfect Peace, by Amos Oz (Corgi, £9.95). The Markman, by Sergey Yuryenich (Quartet, £9.95). Crampion Rednet, by Barbara Pym (Macmillan, £8.95).

SOBERLY and with the assurance of a master, Amos Oz writes about a kibbutz in 1965, a border village where the complicated people thrown up, or out, by European history have become armed farmers and Yonatan wants to leave the mud and rain and his sad wife, to look for something else. He's not quite attached to the kibbutz, just as it's not quite certain whether he is his father's son, or in turn whether he's his father's father. He's partially rooted, like the country, like the men and women on the kibbutz.

A Perfect Peace is a profound, slow book, diverse and ironical (even the title is an irony). It deals calmly with a great range of thoughts and events. Perhaps at the end it is partly a valedictory for the old Israel, new, innocent, and complicated, where the problems, however grave, were simpler and the old Europeans were still in charge.

The novel from Eastern Europe certainly proves that when it comes to the black humour of tyranny, repression, incompetence and official corruption, the rest of us are just amateurs. The dissident's book may well turn out to be one of the enduring triumphs of actually-existing socialism. Sergey Yuryenich's book is rampant with horror and ghastly humour. Krill is trailing the dissident writer, Ivan, who may defect. Before he defects Krill may recruit him as an agent. But Krill's a prince, a man, tortured with old loss and guilt, child of the German occupation, just the man for his times. And yet in some ways he's also the innocent.

Ivan's alter ego, the other side of the same coin.

The rampage about, together, boozing, having sex whenever they can find it, while the tale of what has happened and is happening to their country gradually fills up the background for a tricky novel, full of invention and the pain of loving a country gone wrong.

Those two novels both draw on a fund of European historical and cultural references never firmly embedded in the British national cortex. It's different here, we think, and it certainly is in Crampion Rednet. This retrieved book, written in 1940, goes firmly back to the tradition of Jane Austen who, as we all know, never mentioned Napoleon.

The book is set in North Oxford and the central figure, the one who, if implied, makes the right assessment of events is Jessie Morrow, companion to small-minded Miss Doggett. She is clever and ironical, obviously too good for the job and incongruously, dilly dallying with a young man, the son of a North Oxford, she's the new curate helpfully. "They are either dead or alive. It's sometimes difficult to tell the difference, that's all."

Love affairs go on and fall through — the men change their affection and the women in the end, don't mind much. While Jane Austen ignored Napoleon, when writing of romance she did concern herself with the heart. Here the romance seems technical, it's fairly baffling, though skilfully done, and feels as if all the people in the book were so zonked on massive doses of fruitcake, evensong and dripping laurels that they never came round at all and the only conscious character in the book, Jessie Morrow, has had a lethal dose of irony in the soul.

Hilary Bailey

Crown of thorns

by Peter Vansittart

The Last Romantic: a biography of Queen Marie of Roumania, by Hannah Pakula (Weidenfeld, £14.95).

Elizabeth and Alexandra, by Antony Lambton (Quartet, £9.95).

QUEEN Marie of Roumania (1875-1938), granddaughter of Queen Victoria and of Tsar Alexander II, is now forgotten, save perhaps by readers of Dorothy Parker. "Oh life is a glorious cycle of pain and misery," she wrote in a letter, "and love is a thing that will never go wrong. And I am Marie of Roumania."

Married in fabled King Ferdinand, who described himself as jumping around like a mouse at childbirth, she energetically prodded him over to the Allies in 1916, was prominent in achieving Great Britain's entry into the war in 1914, and was generally an effective PRO for her adopted people, of whom Bismarck said they were not a nation but a profession. Pakula is amusing about her propaganda tour of Britain in 1917, and her dealings with President Coolidge, each lasting as long as four minutes.

Romantic in temperament, in love and in her writings, politically she was shrewd, practical, conciliatory. She was also the mother of the unwholesome Carol II, who perfectly illustrated Bernard Shaw's remark that vulgarity in a king flatters the majority of the nation. Carol adorned his own portrait on coins and stamps with a crown of thorns, symbolising his sufferings while temporarily separated from his mistress, Lupescu.

Herself beautiful, Marie had a penchant for stylish, practical, conscious, and including Waldorf Astor, who wrote lush fiction, folk lore and more restrained and observant diaries. She was described, unwittingly, by a reviewer as the female counterpart of H. G. Wells, and foolishly, as "nothing but a cow," by Martha Bibesco, who assiduously toadied to Lupescu. Marie was also an exonerated interior decorator, traveller, sexual egalitarian.

When both were children, Churchill offered marriage, and the future George V sought her. Dumped on the dynastic marriage market by her mother, the anti-British Duchess of Edinburgh, she described the cruel unreality of young lives, particularly women's: "a deliberate blinding against life as it truly is, so that with shut eyes and perfect confidence we would have advanced against any fate."

Told here without gush, her

story has rather more than the usual nostalgia of faded royalty. (King Carol, King Boris, King Zog) went down to the river to bathe. / Carol and Zog got lost in a bog. / And Boris began with B. Period details of course gleam beneath suffering, tortuous intrigues, frustration. Marie described herself as one of the most wonderful women in the world, a predecessor, "Carmen Sylvia" the writer even more fanciful, gasped while dying, "you are supposed to say beautiful things and you can't."

Dining with Habsburgs sets problems. "The light of the Hofburg was provided by crystal-and-silver, chandeliers that crashed down with some regularity." Another risk was hunger. Since Marie hated until talk, he had his staff trained to serve and clear a twelve course meal in less than an hour — the next course being brought in the moment the emperor and empress finished the last one.

This often resulted in guests at the bottom of the table finding their plates whisked away before they had a chance to attack them. Seated next to Franz-Josef, Marie noted none of this. For her the evening was spoiled by the embarrassment of a large grease stain on her pale-pink gown.

"Faction" is probably unpopular with readers of this issue. It embraces Lord Lambton's long historical novel, with its paraphrases of Russian history, its quotations, recitals of court ceremony and aristocratic preoccupations, and its alternative version of the end of the Romanovs.

It concerns two German sisters, also grand-daughters of Victoria: Elizabeth of Hesse, married to the brutal, anti-semitic self-styled Marie, and Duke Serge, and Alexandra, the last Tsarina, with what Queen Marie called "her pinched, unwilling, patronising smile." While Elizabeth is depicted as an attractive, virtuous, long-suffering, Alexandra is possessive, ignorant, foolish, superstitious, a dynamic disaster. Much here is moving, sometimes shocking.

Both books convey the sadness of women's lot, the selfish, myopic, self-destructive waywardness of the ruling caste with its meticulous rituals, unreal assumptions, brilliant uniforms and doomed armies. Also, the dangerous influence of religion on social attitudes and politics. All the sadder, by implication, the cruelty and ineptness of the regimes that supplanted the old order. Do we learn from the past? Yes. Do we act upon its lessons? Almost never.

in brief

THE latest four in John Calder's excellent series of Opera Guides, issued in association with the ENO and the Royal Opera, are The Operas of Richard Wagner, with contributions by Melvyn Bowen, John Lloyd Davis, Leslie East and others (£4); and three studies of single works — Twilight of the Gods, Simeone Boccanegra, and Strauss's Arabella (£3).

YALE University Press has produced The Illustrated Zelig (£12.95), a fac-

simile edition of Max Beer-holme's own copy which he decorated with interlarded and marginal pen and wash drawings (some of the marginalia up to his highest standard — for example, the Oriel don and his wife, listening with earnest smile and submissive droop, a small miracle of economy in line and suggestiveness).

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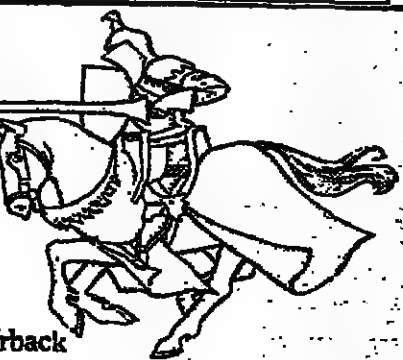


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BBC PUBLICATIONS



My first otter

by Estelle Holt

The Last Otter, by A. R. Lloyd (Hamlyn, £1.95).

ENDANGERED species need writers to plead for them, and this is the story of a boy and an otter, later addition to a fast-growing literature on the subject. I could have done without the poetic croaking of Harn the heron, nevertheless, it does evoke the marshlands that were once the otter's world.

The aim of the otter's friends is to rescue them from the poison of pollution and their other enemies, and eventually to restore them to their wild life. But that is not always possible. I once had two otters that could never have been rehabilitated in this way.

The first had been found abandoned at a few weeks old in a Lau jungle, and I gave him as a peace offering to the British Ambassador in Bangkok. At that time I had a rumour in a Bangkok English language newspaper, and I had written for this an account of the Lao New Year festivities, when water is poured over everyone to wash away the sorrows of the outgoing year. The more popular a person, the more water is poured.

I had captioned a photograph "As a result of his popularity the British Ambassador has been completely soaked on all occasions of the Lao New Year." Unfortunately, the Thai features editor decided to cut the words "of the Lao New Year."

The ambassador and the otter became inseparable but eventually, the ambassador was re-posted, and the otter pined. I thought we should find him a mate, and a headline came up on my column: WANTED FEMALE OTTER TO REPLACE BRITISH AMBASSADOR.

A mate was eventually found, but the new ambassador and his wife did not like otters, and the mate turned out to be another male. Searching desperately for a new home for them, I asked the Russian ambassador, a particular favourite of my first otter. He refused. "All you wish," he said, "is to write a paragraph about the two homeless British otters defect to Russian embassy in Vienna, and I will not give them asylum."

Had I known there were otters in England that could have given them a home somehow, I would have got them back. But they could never have been returned to the wild. They were far too accustomed to the diplomatic life.

Flashing needles

AS a piece of sheer good writing in the traditional narrative manner, The Killers (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95), first novel, earns high marks. Mary Leland starts so quietly that the tensions are subdued, disguised almost. Was there ever so restrained a story of love amid the troubles? We can even pause to enjoy the locations, Cornish and its countryside. But all the time, Leland knits away, the story and its people are shaping; she has been holding back on us, artfully and tellingly, and by the end those needles are flashing with a vengeance.

NS

Intimate Kill, by Margaret Yorke (Hutchinson, £7.95). — Frightened husband, freed after jail term for wife murder, he didn't do, sets out to establish innocence. None too plausible suspense story but solid domestic detail gives it Hitchcockian twist an added



Tadeusz Konwicki

NOTEBOOK Another country

YOU used to meet Poland's best writers and actors at a corner table in a little cafe in the basement of the Cyteynik publishing house in Warsaw, where the novelist Tadeusz Konwicki has held court for a quarter of a century or so.

Things were different on my last visit: "More ears than familiar faces in Cyteynik these days," someone said. But I did recognise the friendly face of Gustaw Holoubek, former president of the actors' union, who also lost the direction of one of Warsaw's best theatres after martial law. Tadeusz, alas, was in Australia, and wouldn't be back until after I returned to London.

But suddenly, here he was in London, too, calling on one of his English publishers on his way home — the same tense little figure, some wary eyes that crinkle in irony at a joke or at some new aspect of the "Polish Complex" (the title of one of his novels you can get in English, from Fabers or Penguin, written in a vein of dark picaresque or "magic realism" that predates our naming of the style in the novels of Garcia Marquez and other Latin Americans).

He was distinctly pleased with himself, going back, he said, to appear at a conference (the first film Andrzej Wajda has been allowed to make in Poland since martial law. It's based on one of Konwicki's own novels, a love story of two young people, and the threshold of life, sitting there, mature, their A-levels, during a hot summer many years ago. But this being Poland, and Wajda and Konwicki being who they are, one understands it will be an idyll with a difference.

To begin with, it's set in a part of Poland that ceased to be Poland 40 years ago — in the Wilno, capital of Lithuania, the border province of the old Republic which, from Mickiewicz to Milosz, contributed far more than its statistically probable share of Poland's great writers, just as Ireland has to English literature.

Then, as every Polish reader knows, this region is not only the place where Konwicki himself was born but also, as he says simply, echoing Richard Jeffries, "the country of my heart." Moreover, the story's long hot summer is the summer of 1939, and the brink of war, and his readers know, too, that like other young writers the 17-year-old Konwicki joined the London-directed Polish "Home Army" to fight the guerrilla war the forests of Lithuania against the Nazis before being finally surrounded by Soviet troops who carried off their leaders to Stalin's camps.

Konwicki was among the lucky ones who managed to get new papers and a place in the official transfer of Lithuanian Poles to the newly acquired Polish province of Silesia in the West. And so, "new papers, new life." But every other chapter in his book aches with the sense of guilt and loss — loss of the country of his heart, and of so much of that young generation.

That's part of the background. But Wajda sees a strange kind of topicality in the story, says Konwicki. "He sees with a kind of dread that today's young people expect war, fear it will be forced on them by 'irrational' forces abroad in the world." So his love story will carry an even heavier burden than history has already loaded it with. (Not the burden of compromise, however. He spells out with legalistic precision that on neither Wajda's part nor his own does the making of the film imply acceptance of martial law or the political situation that followed it; also, interestingly, that the authorities haven't required such an acceptance.)

Two other films are also part of the context of this one. Konwicki is an accomplished director, too, and managed to finish in late '81 and get with legalistic precision that on neither Wajda's part nor his own does the making of the film imply acceptance of martial law or the political situation that followed it; also, interestingly, that the authorities haven't required such an acceptance.)

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And since then, Wajda's assistant, Andrzej Titkow, has made a poetic documentary called Passer-by (banned) with Konwicki as a moribund observer, strolling through Warsaw's streets and Poland's modern history.

Konwicki's better known novel, The Polish Complex, was the first to be published underground, after the revolution against Gierka's draft constitution of 1975 led a group of Warsaw writers to set up an independent and therefore illegal magazine and publishing house. The consequences would be, and this made him, he said, a kind of "experimental animal" for what was going to happen to Polish writers.

It's not his own exemplariness he dwells on, though, but that of the fertile polyglot culture from which he emerged, the messy mix in his border country of Poles, Lithuanians (with their extraordinary language, full of Sanskrit), Germans, Jews, and Byelorussians, a multi-ethnic world modern Poland has lost.

He once described meeting Saul Bellow and seeing himself then as a man of letters from a small country on the outskirts of Asia. Now he believes that this small world of his youth has turned out to be not peripheral but central to the development of our common culture.

Look, he says, look how much Americans writing, especially writing, with its urge to explain everything at once, and the interest in collage and rejection of line, literally or figuratively, in this same soil: "Wilno, Lwow, Novogrodok, Chagall's Vitebsk," he chants, in the rusty whisper cancer of his throat has left him with. As the litany ends, he opens his eyes. "I don't know what it's between, the frontier between, this territory with its frontier of magic."

W. L. Webb

If you are a really good monetarist you can afford to ignore money supply



NOTEBOOK

Hamish McRae

THE AUTHORITIES ought to sanction a half per cent rate rise.

Well, maybe not today or tomorrow. It might, given the uncertainties about Saudi Arabia's production policy, be sensible to wait until

after the Geneva Opec meeting in 11 days' time. It would be a bit goofy to allow base rates to fall now, only to have to push them up by say, 1 per cent, should the Saudis carry out their threat, the oil price plunges to the mid-tens, and there be another run on sterling.

But on domestic monetary grounds there is a case for a modest cut. This might seem a slightly heretical statement in the light of that 2 per cent rise in sterling M3 revealed on Tuesday in the mythology of the medium-term financial strategy, the adherence to the target ranges of money supply is the beginning and the end. But one does not have to be a card-carrying member of the CBI to argue that money feels too tight.

The respectable monetarist argument for a modest cut in base rates runs like this. The aim of monetary targets

is to establish some sort of discipline over monetary policy in an era of floating exchange rates. They are a servant, a tool, not an end in themselves.

The aim of monetary policy should, at the moment, be to continue to exact a gradual, steady downward pressure on inflation. There is a mathematical relationship between the money supply, real gross domestic product and inflation, in that money supply ought to be growing a bit more slowly than real GDP plus inflation, if that downward pressure is to be maintained.

But our measures of money are imperfect at best, and at worst downright misleading. You therefore have to make judgments, and you have to have the self-confidence to make those judgments sometimes in the face of the official measures. Monetary policy is an art, not a science.

At the moment, though the

official monetary figures all point to loose money supply, the trilogies of house prices, share prices (more and more), and the exchange rate (again more and more) all point the other way. The exchange rate in particular could hardly signal tight money more strongly. Forget about the dollar rate for the moment, and look at the mark. Sterling at well over DM4 cannot be right.

The more sensible people in the Treasury and the Bank of England would probably accept that Opec apart, there ought to be some modest cut in rates: not the 5 per cent wanted by the CBI, but the odd 1 per cent. They would perhaps go further and say that come the late autumn, and assuming an acceptable pay round, there may well be a case for more substantial cuts.

That would fit in with the political cycle for the government will want to maintain growth through next

year. (Though maybe they need not worry as much as some of them fear, if the calculations reported by Christopher Hurns on page 26 are right.)

The problem is how to present a cut in rates without giving the wrong impression. You cannot risk a return of the debacle of January, when political statements caused the pound to collapse. The only practicable way would be for the markets to drive sterling rates down and the Bank reluctantly, growing all the while, to accept their judgment. A few more days like yesterday and the foreign exchanges and they might yet oblige.

Too close

POOR OLD Prutek. We should perhaps have guessed that when the country's largest institutional investor, the mighty Pru, got round to setting up a special unit to in-

vest in hi-tech companies, that the hi-tech sector was about to collapse.

That is, of course, terribly unkind, for Prutek was in a way a brave venture and just the sort of thing that the City ought to be doing. And the Pru has been in very good company: look at the financial markets' disenchantment with hi-tech companies following the microcomputer fraternity to giants like Thorn EMI and STC. There is a good intellectual case to be made for specialised investment vehicles, on the grounds that investing in areas like high technology requires a specialist set of skills to evaluate and control risk.

The more specialised the vehicle, however, the greater its vulnerability to swing in product demand, and in pure investment fashion.

We don't know at the moment the extent to which Prutek was the wrong concept, or simply was a bad

picker and handler of its investments. Maybe Prutek was simply too technical: too close to its clients.

Sea change?

AND NOW for a high-tech project which Prutek is not backing. The Japan Foundation for Shipbuilding Advancement is to develop the "screwless" ship.

The idea is to apply the technique of linear motors, which rely on magnets, to boats. Just as wheelless trains have been developed in prototype form, using a magnet to hold the train just above the rails while another magnetic charge drives the train along, Japan is building a prototype ship which will use magnets to drive the ship along.

The ship itself will be a 60-tonner, 18 metres long, and with a 3.6 metres beam. The idea is to use super-

conductive magnets along the bottom of the vessel to create electromagnetic currents in the water around the ship, in just the same way as a linear motor works. The speed of the ship is put at 30 knots and the aim is to have it built in three years' time.

Obviously, whether or not this project is a commercial runner will depend on the relative costs of linear motors and screws — assuming the thing works at all, that is. The case in favour is that the actual structure of the ship will be so simple that maintenance costs will be very low. The case against is that the liquid helium to be used to cool the magnets is extremely expensive.

But perhaps what is most interesting is that Japan does not have a reputation for scientific innovation, rather for refining other countries' ideas. Does this project suggest a change in the Japanese approach

Kuwaiti oil minister jets to London to avert pricing crisis

Saudis 'to double' crude oil output

By John Hooper, Energy Correspondent

Saudi Arabia has told its Opec partners that — whatever the outcome of the cartel's next meeting — it will all but double its output of crude, a delegate who attended last week's consultations in Vienna said yesterday.

Yesterday, Kuwait's oil minister, few from Vienna, London for talks with British oil officials. He is to fly to Mexico for similar talks later in the week. A Kuwaiti oil ministry official said that the minister would try to tell British and Mexican officials that Saudi Arabia was prepared to double its output by a price ceiling in an effort to avert a collapse in the price of oil. He will be acting on behalf of Opec ministers.

According to delegates, who was not part of the Saudi delegation, the Saudis told last weekend's meeting in Vienna

that an increase in their output was not as had been previously believed. Saudi Arabia's other member states remaining within their quotas. It was simply a statement of intentions.

As the cartel's "swing producer" Saudi Arabia, which is entitled under Opec's quota agreement to pump out up to 4.5 million barrels a day (bpd), has progressively reduced output to ensure that, despite overproduction by other states, the cartel's total output stays within its overall ceiling. By last month Saudi output had dropped to 2.2 million bpd. The fall in oil revenues has depleted the Kingdom's foreign reserves, cast grave doubt on its ability to balance the budget and caused alarm within the Royal Family about the possible political implications.

When he arrived in Vienna

last week, Sheikh Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, told his counterparts that he could no longer resist the pressure building up inside the Kingdom and that production was going to rise to 4 million bpd, the source said.

Other Opec delegates managed, however, to secure two concessions. The first was that Saudi production would not rise by more than 200,000 bpd before the forthcoming conference in Geneva on July 22. The second was that it would only increase gradually thereafter.

Because of low seasonal demand, the cartel as a whole is currently producing only about 16.2 million bpd, so that the Saudis are similar to what the whole of the potential increase up to Opec's self-imposed ceiling of 16 million bpd. This appears to be why they are demanding only four mil-

lion barrels bpd and not their full entitlement.

This account explains the most perplexing aspect of last weekend's get-together. Having earlier called for a cut in the price of the heavier grades of crude to make them more competitive with lighter varieties, Sheikh Yamani arrived in Vienna flatly denying that he wanted to adjust the pricing structure.

If Saudi Arabia were to increase its production it would probably do so by increasing the share of light crudes in the "mix" it sells to the oil companies and would therefore have less incentive to render light crudes less saleable.

It also squares with Sheikh Yamani's apparently contradictory remark at the end of the meeting that Saudi Arabia was no longer the "swing producer," but did not intend boosting production

Bulmer blames budget rises

By Geoffrey Gibbs

THE BULMER GROUP, the Hereford-based cider manufacturer, suffered a 55 per cent slump in profits last year as the cumulative effects of recent cider duty increases took the fizz out of the market.

The Strongbow and Woodpecker brands, yesterday reported that its pre-tax profits tumbled from a record £16.1 million to £7.5 million during the 12 months to April after taking account of redundancy and early retirement costs totalling £3.24 million.

Results were also hit by a near £2 million jump in interest charges in the wake of

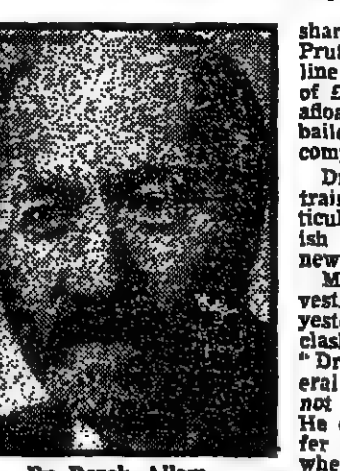
Prutek's chief executive to quit over merger

By Margaret Pagano, City Correspondent

Dr Derek Allam is quitting as chief executive of Prutek following the Prutek's sudden decision to merge its high-risk venture capital arm with its own venture capital activities.

This surprise move to take control of Prutek is believed to have been prompted by concern over Prutek's recent investment track record. Prutek, set up four and a half years ago to seek out hi-tech, and therefore high risk fledgling companies, has investments worth about \$5 million.

Dr Allam will be resigning with effect from September. It is understood that he strongly disagreed with the Pru's decision to merge Prutek and clashed with Pru directors over investment policy. When it became clear that he would not be given responsibility for the enlarged group, which will have investments worth over £100 million, he resigned. Control of Prutek will now come under Mr Richard Gawthorne, Data, the home computer company, which was badly hit by a



Dr Derek Allam

Prutek's in-house venture capital activities. Prutek has investments in 25 companies ranging from body scanners, and robots to wind sails, and has helped fund several new products and inventions. The most disastrous investment so far was in Dragon Data, the home computer company, which was badly hit by a

sharp drop in summer sales. Prutek had to provide a life-line of £1.34 million funds out of £2.5 million to keep Dragon afloat. Eventually Dragon was bailed out by a Spanish company.

Dr Allam, a chemist by training, has always been particularly outspoken about British industry's poor response to new products or ideas. Mr Ron Aron, head of investment at the Pru, denied yesterday there had been any clash with Dr Allam. He said: "Dr Allam saw that the general status offered to him was not one that he could accept. He decided that he would prefer to take up work elsewhere." Dr Allam was not available for comment.

The merger between the two entities, which will have combined professional staff of a dozen, will take effect immediately. But physically Prutek, which has its own offices, will not be brought into the Pru's headquarters until the autumn. Prutek's seven professional staff are mainly technically educated.

NEWS IN BRIEF

UK lends to Indonesia

THE TRADE Minister, Mr Paul Channon, who has just returned from a two-week tour of South-east Asia, aimed at building on the Prime Minister's visit to the region earlier this year, said yesterday that Britain had offered "soft" loans to Indonesia.

He widely believed that Britain lost several important contracts there because of the government's refusal to comply with an Indonesian presidential decree which states that bids for contracts which are not put out to tender cannot be accepted unless they are accompanied by loans at non-commercial rates of interest.

He added that in Thailand, where B.I. is bidding to equip Bangkok with a new bus fleet, he had made it clear Britain would match any offer on aid made by its competitors.

MIDLAND Bank is today expected to unscramble the \$66 million deal made three years ago under which Aetna Life of the United States took a 40 per cent stake in the Samuel Montagu Midland banking group. Midland will get about \$45 million for its 60 per cent interest in Samuel Montagu's offshoot, Montagu Investment Management (MIM), but is expected to pay a comparable amount to Aetna for its 40 per cent stake in the merchant banking and securities part of the operation which will come back under 100 per cent Midland control. So there will be little net inflow of cash. MIM management, led by Mr David Stevens, is expected subsequently to buy a shareholding in the investment management firm, which is being valued at \$75 million or 2.5 per cent of funds under management — considerably higher than the 1.5 per cent which is the usual benchmark.

BODDINGTONS' agreed \$27.5 million takeover bid for Liverpool's last remaining brewing company, Higsons Brewery, has been declared unconditional light from the Department of Trade and Industry in respect of 86.4 per cent of the Higsons shares. The acquisition brings in a new larger plant and adds 154 pubs to the Manchester company's 379-strong state.

MANAGEMENT Agency and Music shareholders yesterday approved the privately-owned Chrysalis records company, paying the way for an offer for sale that will raise \$6.75 million for the new capital for the company. About 38 per cent of MAM's shareholders holding 57 per cent of the existing shares have decided to sell their shares rather than remain with the enlarged organisation.

MP's 'evidence of JMB fraud'

By Peter Rodgers

Mr Brian Sedgmore, the Labour MP, said yesterday that evidence would be covered by privilege.

On Tuesday Mr Sedgmore told MPs: "I have here a file which contains what I regard as what I think about fraud at Johnson Matthey. He was the reason, and which gives MPs the opportunity to raise almost any subject."

He expected four or five sympathetic MPs to put their names forward in the ballot so that one of them could take up the JMB case.

Mr Sedgmore refused to give any details of the evidence, and said he had not told the police because "once it becomes sub-judice, you never hear anything more about it. It would be to expose the evidence during a debate, he added, "there are usually ways in this place that

you can get time."

If Mr Sedgmore can get parliamentary time his evidence would be covered by privilege.

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clear last night that the word of Mr Sedgmore should be taken to mean corruption as well. He added: "There has been nothing in any substantiated form that would suggest the problems arose from corruption or fraud. This should not be interpreted as meaning that we are not looking for any more, nor are our minds closed if other people come up with evidence."

It is thought in the City that the Bank of England would not be displeased if evidence of fraud were discovered and sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions, because it would shift some of the blame for the collapse away from the Bank's supervision of the banking system.

Police inquiries have been centred on evidence of fraud by customers of Johnson Matthey Bankers, not its staff or directors.

Offer for Debenhams extended

By our City Correspondent

Burton yesterday extended its offer for Debenhams and reminded shareholders that its £480 million bid was a 46 per cent rise on the market value of the stores group before it launched its bid.

Burton's chief, Mr Ralph Halpern, said that sticking with Debenhams, led by an old partner, was a long-term investment, and a long record of success. He promised that Burton, together with Habitat Motereach, would immediately set in store ambitious plans to develop the Debenhams shops.

Debenhams' has strongly criticised Burton's plans to convert the stores into "galleries" arguing that costs outweigh the benefits. But Burton has hit back saying that this, longer-term project, would cost £80 per square foot net to convert the stores, about half of the Debenhams claim. In the short term, Burton plans to spend between £25 and £30 million on improving the stores over three years, which would improve sales and the group's image, and extend merchandise.

Turning car clocks to zero 'should be banned'

By Rosemary Collins

Turning a car mileage clock back to zero is no crime, the courts have held, because the cause no one is likely to be misled into thinking that a used car has travelled no distance at all.

But Consumer Voice, issued by the National Consumer Council yesterday, believes that it should be a practice banned by law. According to a survey carried out by West Midlands trading standards department, many car dealers who turn the clocks of used cars back to zero with impunity argue that they do so to protect them from the consequences of clock-tampering by others.

Waste centre planned

By John Ardill, Environment Correspondent

Plans for a technical advice unit on waste recycling were outlined yesterday by the Industry Minister, Mr David Trippier, who is seeking a £100,000 - year contribution from private industry to match similar public funding.

The unit would prepare statistical and economic data, state-of-the-art reports on developments in the UK and overseas, and technical backup for recycling initiatives, he told industry representatives during a visit to the government's Warren Spring Laboratory, where the unit is likely to be located.

Britain's 100 million tonnes a year output of waste is the source of considerable wealth, business opportunities and jobs, he said.

Government departments were to keep reclamation and recycling policies under regular review.

Laura Ashley set to go public

By Margaret Pagano, City Correspondent

Laura Ashley followers of the fashion label will soon have the chance to invest in this fast-expanding company, which started life over 30 years ago on the kitchen table.

Now the family-run and owned international clothes, textiles to furnishings group is growing so rapidly that it needs extra capital to fund ambitious expansion plans at home and overseas. The husband and wife team, Bernard and Laura, who founded the company from their Pimlico attic in 1953, making table mats and scarves, also want to realise money from their work-

shares in the Ashley business are expected to be on offer to the general public via a full Stock Exchange listing by early next year—even sooner if time allows.

The company is expected to be valued at some £200 million with the family giving up about 25 per cent of the business. A large chunk of the shares, likely to be set at a fixed price will be set aside for Ashley's 4,000 employees on favourable terms. New money will also be raised.

Extract from the Statement by Sir Campbell Adamson CHAIRMAN RENOLD PLC

Considerable headway has been made during the year in improving efficiency, and demand for our products is growing healthily. The regeneration of the Group is well under way and the financial restructuring which has taken place, somewhat ahead of plan, has opened the way for payment of dividends to shareholders in 1985/6. The Board foresees a continuing increase in profitability.

This is an abridged version of the full accounts which will be filed with the Registrar of Companies following the Annual General Meeting on 28th July 1985. Copies of the Annual Report can be obtained from the Secretary, Renold PLC, at the address below.

RENOLD PLC
Head Office: RENOLD HOUSE, STYAL ROAD, WYTHENSHAW, MANCHESTER M22 5WL. Tel: 061-427 5221. Telex: 669092.

As the Cabinet meets on public spending, Michael Smith and Christopher Huhne look at revelations of a crumbling Britain

Now it's official—the nation is falling apart

REPORTS by the key big-spending departments of the government now confirm that Britain's estate of public buildings, roads and other infrastructure is in a state of disrepair. Moreover, the backlog of repairs is clearly getting worse.

The true scale of the problem cannot be quantified due to a lack of central information, but it is clear from the research presented to the National Economic Development Office yesterday that the bill runs into billions.

This public confirmation of what many of

the government's critics have said for some time comes on the eve of the first key cabinet meeting of the public spending round, when the Chancellor is already under fire from colleagues for his parsimonious attitude to spending programmes.

The departmental papers provide fresh ammunition for the "wets" and "consolidators" in the Cabinet since they underline that some of the most politically sensitive areas, including schooling and the National Health Service, are being hit hard by existing policies.



Britain has at least 700,000 unfit homes

Picture: Don McPhee

Hospitals

THE GOVERNMENT admits in one of its reports to Nedo that the maintenance and repair backlog on hospitals and other National Health Service buildings is running at about £1.7 billion, broadly in line with estimates from previous surveys.

This official confirmation from the Department of Health and Social Security is bound to stoke the controversy over adequate funding for the NHS, one of the issues on which the government has recently lost most support.

Though the DHSS report adds various qualifications to the figure which suggests that it may be an overestimate, it freely concedes that full knowledge of the estate has not until now existed due to lack of information. Nor is it possible to estimate whether the problem is growing or getting better, it says.

The report nevertheless says that the £1.7 billion is an over-estimate because it includes estimates for the repair of buildings "where the proper course is demolition or otherwise disposal."

It further implies that this reduction in the size of the NHS estate is compatible

with the land and space demands of the service through a "reordering... to the greater standards of efficiency" and the introduction of new hospitals.

The DHSS says that the upkeep, modernisation and renewal of the NHS's 2,000 or so hospitals plus other buildings accounted for over 10 per cent of the total NHS health budget of £9.4 billion in 1983-4.

Education

THE Education Secretary, Sir Keith Joseph concedes for the first time that educational standards in Britain are being affected by the dilapidation of schools, universities and other parts of the system.

In a separate note to the Education Department's submission to Nedo, Sir Keith observes: "A significant proportion of pupils and students are being educated in buildings that are unsatisfactorily maintained. This will make more difficult the cost-effective achievement of higher educational standards."

He admits that "substantial arrears" of maintenance have accumulated in the past decade.

The Department of Education and Science endorses the findings, pointing out that actual levels of maintenance spending are "falling short of assessed need." In some areas, outside advice suggests that the shortfall is at least 20 per cent of requirements.

Nonetheless, the department says that education inspectors have reported: "In a significant proportion of educational establishments teaching and learning take place in unsuitable accommodation."

Sir Keith's note points out that universities and other higher education buildings provided by the building programme of the 1960s are beginning to need the renewal of large items such as roofs and heating plants. The general point that the delay in meeting the maintenance backlog will ultimately drive up the cost of the programme.

Roads

THE ONLY part of the national road network where plans are in hand to cut the growing backlog of repair work is the motorway system. Both trunk roads and local roads are likely to deteriorate, the Department of

Transport shows in a report to the Nedo.

The Department also concedes a key point of its critics, namely that the cost of repairing deteriorating roads is rising with every month repair is delayed. Parsimony now requires extravagance later.

Even the backlog of motorway work, which now amounts to 63 miles of carriageway needing repairs, will not be reduced in this financial year as repairs will only keep pace with the 70 miles a year which needs renewal.

Thereafter, the Department says, an 80 miles a year programme of renewal should gradually reduce the backlog. The report says that 130 to 190 miles of single carriageway trunk roads need renovation each year, but work on only 100 miles is planned in 1985-6. The backlog of 3 per cent of the system—about 220 miles—will rise to more than 4 per cent at the end of the financial year.

The annex to the report points out that the 1984

result of the survey shows that the condition was once again very similar to that of 1977.

The report notes that the schemes comprising the backlog "could be put in hand very quickly" but that the elimination of "this presently growing backlog" will depend on the availability of additional funds.

Drainage

THE BACKLOG of work on "critical" sewers alone is estimated at £1.5 billion by the Water Research Centre in evidence submitted to Nedo. But it is generally accepted that the true extent of the problem and the cost of repairing the damage is not yet known.

A special "Little Noddy" committee on civil engineering admits that the only evidence available of capital needs for land drainage, in-

cluding flood protection and sea defences, is from a mid-1970s survey showing a £1 billion backlog.

The Little Noddy cites evidence from Imperial College which said that the current level of funding in the sewage industry was "inadequate" to halt the continuing decay of the sewage system.

Estimates from the Water Authorities Association show that the current £800 million spending enables the industry to finance top priority projects only, whereas an outlay of £1 billion a year would be needed to finance second and third priority projects.

Housing

THE Department of the Environment declines to put a figure on the backlog in housing maintenance and repair, though independent estimates have put the figure into billions of pounds.

The department's paper emphasises that "not enough information is available about the condition of the local authority (housing) stock."

However, the department has asked all local authorities to submit details of likely spending needs in 1985/6 and the proposed programme for 1986/7.

The department indicates that its latest figures show that at least 700,000 households in the UK are living in unfit dwellings. While there are 21.7 million dwellings in the country, compared with only 20.8 million households, a 1981 survey found that 1 million dwellings are unfit while 574,000 dwellings classified as fit were in a state of serious disrepair.

Treasury

A TREASURY paper to Nedo accuses its critics of underestimating the degree of flexibility which public sector decision makers have in planning long-term capital investment projects.

A persistent refrain of the past Nedo work has been that the Treasury's rigid controls of public spending for the year in question make sensible and efficient long-term planning difficult.

But the Treasury points out that local authorities are given an indication of future years' allowable capital spending and that they can roll forward any capital underspend in the current year to the next by up to 10 per cent of the allocation.

Similar provisions apply to nationalised industries and the National Health Service, though the Treasury warns that if "end year flexibility" were carried too far it could risk "material over-spending of the planning total."

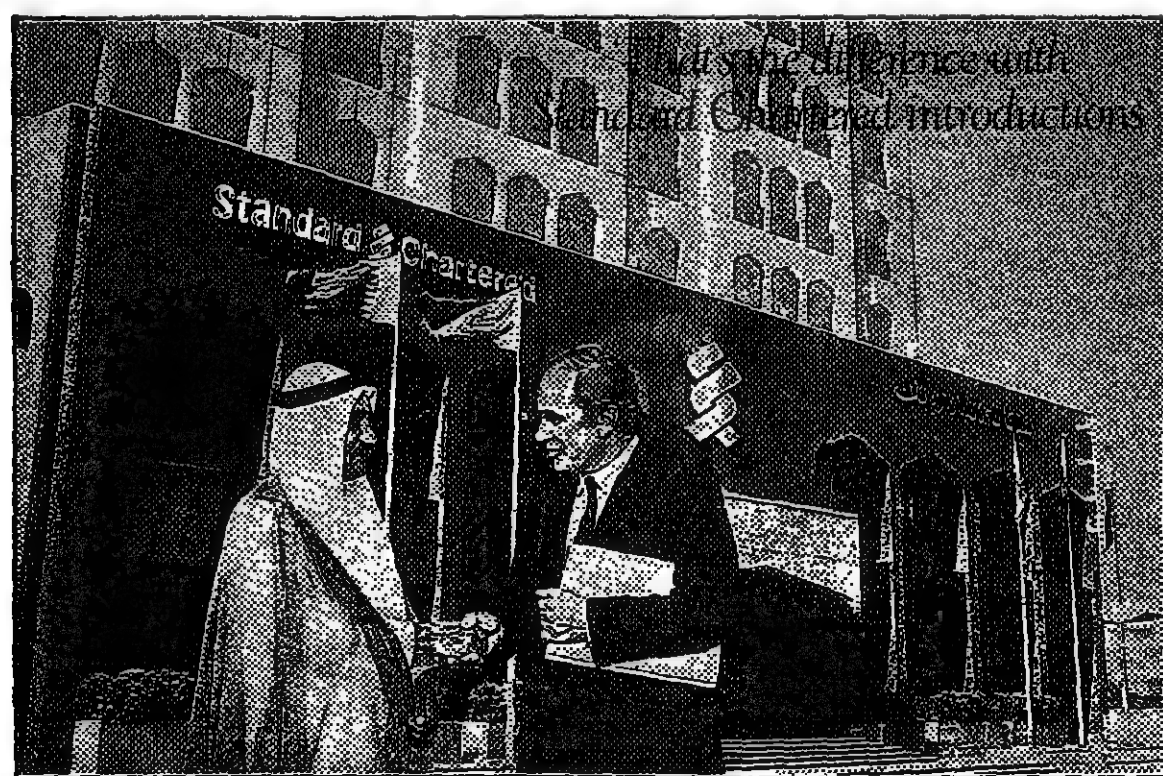
Industry

BOTH SIDES of industry have taken the opportunity to renew their pleas for a big increase in the levels of infrastructure spending. The Confederation of British Industry believes the Government can afford a £1 billion-a-year programme while the Trade Union Congress wants to see a five-year expenditure of £30 billion to create 600,000 new jobs in industry.

Mr John Cassels, director-general of Nedo, says that there is a general agreement on the findings, including the shortcomings, while work is being undertaken in several departments to determine the true scale of the problems.

Mr Cassels admits that it is not possible on the basis of papers submitted to Nedo to quantify the scale of the backlog of both repair and maintenance. "Nobody, however, questions that it is substantial and cumulative and that it will cost more to remedy the longer it is left," he says.

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Offers drawn up in five (05) copies must be sent in double sealed and registered packet to the Secrétaire de la Direction des Approvisionnements (Supplies Division) at the above address.

The outer envelope must be anonymous, carrying no marking except the endorsement: "AVIS D'APPEL A LA CONCURRENCE OUVERT NATIONAL ET INTERNATIONAL No. 9131. AY/MEC CONFIDENTIEL A NE PAS OUVRIR". Offers must arrive at the latest within 45 days after the first publication of this notice.

Option period shall be 180 days as from the closing date of this invitation to tender.

FORMAL NOTICE

This Formal Notice does not constitute an invitation to purchase shares. Application is being made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for all the issued ordinary shares of Chrysalis Group plc, including those now being offered for sale, to be admitted to the Official List.

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(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1987 No. 946978)

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Chrysalis is a diversified leisure group engaged principally in the manufacture and distribution of records; music publishing; the ownership and operation of recording studios; management, agency and promotions; the ownership and operation of juke boxes and amusement machines; the ownership and operation of hotels; property development and dealing; the supply of post production facilities and services to the television, film and video industries; the retail of musical instruments; and the production of animated cartoons.

The application list will open at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 16th July, 1985 and may be closed at any time thereafter. Copies of the Listing Particulars (on the terms of which applications will be considered) with application forms are available from:

Samuel Montagu & Co Limited
114 Old Broad Street
London EC2P 2HY
Tel: 01-588 6464 ext 2223

Chrysalis Group plc
12/13 Stratford Place
London W1N 9AF

James Capel & Co
Winchester House
100 Old Broad Street
London EC2N 1BQ

and National Westminster Bank PLC at the following addresses:

New Issues Department
2 Princes Street
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14 Blythswood Square
Glasgow G2 4AQ

Colmore Centre
103 Colmore Row
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SENIOR PROGRAMMER/SYSTEMS ANALYST

£9,189-£12,219 pa inc. Ref: B6933
You will need at least 2 years' experience of Cobol/SCL and enjoy problem solving. You will need to adapt to a variety of duties ranging from ensuring that new systems are ready for live running (including the preparation of operational SCL and operations documentation) to re-establishing operational services following systems failures, as well as investigating user requests for improvements to existing systems.

INTERESTED?

If you want to know more about us simply phone Jill Burman, Recruitment Officer on 01-527 5544 ext. 4419

It's your prerogative to ask the questions. We'll save ours until we meet. Outside working hours, please request further details from: Recruitment Officer, Personnel Department, Town Hall, Forest Road, London E17 4JF, quoting the appropriate reference number: (Tel: 01 531 8899 - 24 hour Answering Service). Closing Date 19th July 1985.



Waltham Forest

BUSINESS ANALYSTS

We're the largest fashion retail organisation in the UK (which includes such famous companies as Saks, Dols, Olympus and Freeman Hardy Willis).

To meet the Company's continual development programme we are currently seeking both junior and senior analysts for our Management Services Department. Successful candidates will work within project teams serving the Retail and Finance/Payroll and Pensions/Distribution and Stock Control areas of the business, providing the vital link between these users and the computing department.

Candidates are sought with a background in programming or analysis on commercial systems.

Leicester based

who now wish to apply these skills in a 'user' orientated role. They must be able to communicate effectively and demonstrate the ability to identify system requirements from a business as well as data processing viewpoint.

Salary is dependent on experience within the range of £8,000 - £11,000 per annum. Excellent conditions of employment are offered and benefits include generous relocation assistance, company pension scheme (including free life insurance), incentive bonus and staff discount.

Write or telephone for an application form quoting reference 450 to Julie Hegarty, Personnel Officer, British Shoe Corporation Ltd, Sunningdale Road, Leicester LE3 1UR. Telephone: Leicester (0533) 877051.

BSC

BRITISH SHOE CORPORATION

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST FASHION RETAIL ORGANISATION.

EXETER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

MANAGER

Exeter ITC, an exciting and challenging venture in information technology, training and consultancy, requires a manager who will be responsible for the other six staff members. In addition to the ITC programme (comprising Computing, Electronics and Business Skills) the centre offers a wide range of training courses to meet the needs of the community.

The Manager (salary c. 13K) will have managerial, entrepreneurial and training experience together with a knowledge of the micro computing field. He/she will be expected to market the concept of the ITC which is located in the centre of Exeter, part of Devon's business and commercial world. Applications in writing with full c.v. together with names and addresses of two referees to: Mrs. Caroline Magee, GRAND METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY SERVICES LTD, 12a High Street, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 3BG. Tel: 0272-427126, not later than 22nd July.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

COMPUTING SERVICE

Applications are invited for three vacancies

SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER

A Programmer with good operating system experience to join a team supporting an IBM 3080; mainframe experience with MVS and HSM would be an advantage.

APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER

A Programmer to join the team which maintains and develops compilers, utilities and specialised packages and gives advice upon their use.

TEACHING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMER

A Programmer to join a project developing undergraduate teaching software on advanced personal computers.

Applicants for all vacancies must combine relevant experience with the ability to work with university staff. A degree or equivalent qualification is almost essential.

Each appointment will be for two years in the first instance on scales ranging from £5,705 to £11,205.

Further details obtainable from: Dr. D. P. Hartley, Computer Laboratory, Computer House, Cambridge CB3 9QU. The closing date for applications is 31st July, 1985.

COMPUTER STAFF

National Heart and Chest Hospitals

BROMPTON HOSPITAL

DATA PROCESSING ASSISTANT

(Salary within range of £7,000-£8,801 with increase pending)

postgraduate teaching hospital at this specialist

The person we appoint will be assistant in the clinical epidemiologist working on occupational asthma surveys, and will carry out research, analysis and data processing for statistical analysis.

Applicants should have a degree or equivalent qualification in a relevant field, and be able to work with university staff. A degree or equivalent qualification is almost essential.

For further information please contact: K. Venables, Tel: 01-589 5887, ext. 4444.

Application form and further details from Mrs. J. A. Jenks, Group Personnel Manager, Brompton Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW6 8BT, Tel: 01-589 5887, ext. 4444. Applications to be returned by July 27, 1985.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Geology

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited from persons with a degree or equivalent qualification in Geology, and experience in the use of a computer, to assist in the development of a new research project in the field of sedimentary geology.

The successful candidate will be expected to work on the development of a new research project in the field of sedimentary geology.

For further details and an application form, please contact: Dr. J. A. Jenks, Group Personnel Manager, Brompton Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW6 8BT, Tel: 01-589 5887, ext. 4444. Applications to be returned by July 27, 1985.

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RESEARCH/RESEARCH AWARDS

University of Manchester

Department of Computer Science

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for persons with a degree or equivalent qualification in Computer Science, and experience in the use of a computer, to assist in the development of a new research project in the field of computer science.

The successful candidate will be expected to work on the development of a new research project in the field of computer science.

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FORECASTING EXECUTIVE

CENTRAL LONDON £10,500 pa

The Cable and Wireless Group is a world leader in the competitive field of telecommunications, operating and maintaining a wide range of high-technology systems. Accurate economic and market forecasting is crucial in an industry which is continually changing in response to increased demand and new technological developments.

The Forecasting Unit in Central London requires an executive to analyse and forecast demand for the Group's telecommunications systems in terms of volume and revenue and to forecast the impact of economic and other changes on the Group's business environment. Furthermore, the executive will assist in developing the statistical and computer techniques used in forecasting.

Candidates should possess a degree in Economics or Statistics with a significant econometric content, ideally backed up by working experience in a commercial environment.

The appointment, subject to performance, will be confirmed after one year's contract.

We are offering an attractive salary with benefits including flexible working hours, 22 days annual leave, and subsidised restaurant facilities.

Please send full details, quoting ref: GR462, to: Recruitment Manager, Cable and Wireless plc, Mercury House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8BX, or telephone for an application form on 01-405 4980 (24 hours).

Administrative Officer (Personnel)

213 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 1QJ

Tel: 01-405 4980

Applicants should have a degree or equivalent qualification, and have a minimum of four years' relevant experience.

Application form and further particulars available from

Administrative Officer (Personnel)

213 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 1QJ

Tel: 01-405 4980

Applicants should have a degree or equivalent qualification, and have a minimum of four years' relevant experience.

Application form and further particulars available from

Channel 4

9 30 The Living World: Hebrides, last British refuge of the Corncrake.

30 pm Racing from Newmarket. 4.30
Life Vision Scribble.

5 0 THE WINDS OF WAR: 7: The
Changing of The Guard. Femini-
sm re-run episode on the Har-
man Wouk epic, with Robert Mit-
chum as Pag, now running
shoulders with Roosevelt and
Churchill, which must give him a
lot of Epic Encounters for his
album.

7 0 CHANNEL FOUR NEWS: 7.54
Comment. By feminist writer Dale
Spender. Weather.

8 0 FROM THE FACE OF THE
EARTH: 1: The Kuru Mystery.
First of five documentaries ex-
ploring the death of a civiliza-
tion. The film is a study of the
work that goes into identifying
and eradicating disease, this film
tells how a plague that struck a
stone Age tribe in Papua New
Guinea was caught at the death of
sheep in Iceland, and then to the
premature senility which is one of
the increasingly common condi-
tions of the Western world.

9 0 TANDOORI NIGHTS: White Lies
Second episode of Farrukh Dho-
dy's reliable new comedy drama
about cut-throat competition in
re-dispensing business, with
Saeed Jaffrey as the urbane
owner of the Jewel In The Crown.

9 30 THOSE GLORY, GLORY DAYS, by
Julie Welch. A merited re-run for
the delightful Film On Four pro-
duction which marked the
Observer sports writer's screen-
writing debut and the first of
Philip Saville, then fresh from his
success with Boys From The Black
Stuff another chance to exercise his
skills. Julia Goodman plays the
girl football reporter recalling
the schoolgirl passion for soccer
that dominated her adolescence.

10 0 IT'LL BE ALRIGHT LATE AT
NIGHT: One of Denis Norden's
hilariously-named, hilariously
funny collections of goofs, effec-
tive and other bits that didn't make it.

10	30	Morning Story: Ella, by Fred
10	45	Eye on You, Ella, by Fred
10	55	Urethane
11	00	An Act of Worship.
11	05	News: Analysis: Reforming Mr.
11	10	Bloodsucker: The case for tax
11	15	Teach Yourself News-speak
11	20	William Davis interprets jargon.
11	25	10 You and Yours
11	30	My Music: Tuneless panel game.
11	35	10 The World at Once: News.
11	40	The Archers.
11	45	20 The Women's Hour: Mothers
11	50	and daughters - examination of
11	55	the special relationship,
12	00	sometimes good, sometimes
12	05	ghostly.
12	10	30 News: Afternoon Play: Youkay,
12	15	by Guy King. Hard truth for
12	20	the young.
12	25	40 News: Enquire Within.
12	30	40 A Good Read: Paperback chop-
12	35	Story: Time magazine's Lamorne
12	40	Michael Nicholson (3).
12	45	50 P.M. News magazine.
12	50	60 The Six O'Clock News.
12	55	70 The World of Britain, 1985.
13	00	80 News: The Archers.
13	05	90 Any Answers?
13	10	40 International Assignment.
13	15	50 The Editor of Britain: The life of
13	20	a new Redcoat at Butler's.
13	25	Steele.
13	30	50 Just Like You and Me: Johnny
13	35	Black recalls 25 years of dealing
13	40	with animals.
13	45	90 Does He Take Sugar? magazine
13	50	for the disabled.
13	55	30 John Peel in the Sound
14	00	Archives.
14	05	40 Kaleidoscope: Arts magazine.
14	10	50 The World of Britain: Young
14	15	Gentini: Alec McCowen's
14	20	autobiography (2).
14	25	30 The World Tonight.
14	30	40 The World Tonight: Mid Tonight.
14	35	50 Today in Parliament.
14	40	60 News: Weather: interval.
14	45	70 News: Weather: interval.
14	50	80 News: Weather: interval.
14	55	90 News: Weather: interval.
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<p>15 55 TOUR DE FRANCE. 12.30 Close.</p>	
<p>30 Gardens for All. 0 Emmerdale Farm. 30 Film: Gold. 1974 South African action with Roger Moore. 30 Sissannah York. 30 TV Eye. 0 News at Ten. 25 Scarerose and Mrs King. 0 Postscript: weather, Close.</p>	<p>with Roger Moore. Ray Milland. 9 30 TV Eye. 10 0 News at Ten. 20 30 Brass in Concert. 11 15 Database. 11 45 Rayney Miller. 12 15 Close.</p>
<p>54C</p>	
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Shares suffer from damaged export prospects

Rise of sterling
revives pressure
on interest ratesBy Peter Rodgers,
City Editor

The pound hit \$1.40 at one point yesterday and bounded upwards against European currencies because of the market belief that sterling interest rates would stay high. Shares lost \$1.9 billion on the Datastream index, after going \$3 billion down during the day.

However, the return of Tuesday's leap in the pound was so impressive that there was increasing speculation that the Chancellor would soon be forced to allow at least a token 3 per cent cut in bank base lending rates to 12 per cent.

Otherwise Mr Lawson will face more anguished outcries from industry about the effect on exporters, and possibly from cabinet colleagues about an over-zealous approach to sterling and curbing inflation.

Interest rates in the City's money markets reflected the Bank of England's determination not to allow a fall at the moment and remained in line with present base rates. There was no official indication of any softening of the desire to maintain high interest rates, and the Government may still be concerned that the meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Geneva this month could hit oil prices.

Shares continued to be affected by the combined threats of a higher pound and its damage to export prospects, and high interest rates and the effect on industry's borrowing costs and confidence.

After touching \$1.40 the pound closed at \$1.382, about 5.5 cents better than last Friday. The pound is at its best level against the dollar since June 1984, but more disturbing for many exporters was the peak it reached against the German mark, DM1.10 during the morning.

This was the highest since November 1982, a substantial over-valuation on many measures of competitiveness. The pound closed at DM4.0685 while sterling's trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies ended 0.7 per cent higher at 83.9 per cent of its 1975 value. At one stage it hit 84.3 per cent, the highest since September 1983, but the closing level was still the best since November 1983.

The dollar was hit because that it was widely felt that a 3 per cent interest rate cut would have little effect. There was thought to be some Bank of England selling of sterling, part of a pattern in which it has used the pound's strength to restore dollar reserves.

The dollar was hit because lower United States interest rates are in sight, after the resignation of the budget director Mr David Stockman.

The dollar weakened against most currencies but sterling was much stronger against it than the rest. The FT 30 share index closed 9.5 lower at 222.5 after slipping 18 points at one stage.

The Chancellor said in a Commons reply that there was little evidence that short-term exchange rate volatility had a significant impact on international trade. But "larger and more persistent movements may lead to changes in the patterns of international trade which are unlikely to be sustainable, and to a dangerous build-up of protectionist pressures."

Michael White writes from Washington: Financial analysts on Wall Street and in Washington remained confident that the dollar's rough patch would end without a dramatic fall. One central bank adviser in the capital said: "I do not think there should be any panic. Where else are they going to put their money?"

The private meeting of the Federal Reserve's open market committee in Washington, though its deliberations will not be known for some weeks, has raised expectations of a 3 per cent cut in the discount rate and possible easing of monetary targets. Some analysts protest that this would signal renewed inflation.

Lawson
renews
hope of
tax cuts

Continued from page one

validate claims for extra cash from Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary.

With the claim that unemployment is levelling off and expected to drop, the defence savings will clearly feature largely in Mr Lawson's argument that essential services can be protected and tax cuts promised.

His intention appears to be to steady what he regards as the wavering nerve of colleagues openly critical of new public spending restrictions and worried by the electoral unpopularity plunged by last week's election result in Brecon and Radnor.

Although spending departments are said to be hiding for more than £5 billion above the target for 1986-87, the Treasury is dismissing much of it as customary padding in the preliminary offerings.

The spending cut in real terms implied in the budget is about £900 million. While this figure may have been increased in the Treasury's secret summer forecast, to take account of higher inflation, the squeeze will be less dramatic than a year ago, when the Chancellor had to find \$1.5 billion in real cuts.

Although the Chancellor is unlikely to concede the point today, an unallocated contingency reserve of £6 billion is included in the £139 billion plan and allows room for manoeuvre.

It would be possible for him later in the year to cut the reserve by about £1 billion and effectively eliminate the need for overall real cuts.

The traditional wets, such as Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, and the so-called consolidators led by Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the Commons, are expected to use today's meeting for an appeal for an increase in the planning totals. They will save their fire for the detailed arguments on individual programmes later in the year.

If there is to be a victim this year, it is likely to be Mr Heseltine. Although the Defence select committee has argued that growth of 6 per cent is necessary to compensate for the inflation in defence costs, the Treasury insists that the MoD should have some lean years after its 18 per cent growth in real terms since 1982/83.

The Chancellor is arguing that the "middle way" to which he referred in his much quoted speech last weekend was a reference to a course on the public spending graph somewhere between growth and contraction.

The reference, however, was taken to suggest a concession to his Cabinet critics and he has been irritated by the aftermath as has the Prime Minister.

Mr Heseltine adds: The Chancellor last night turned down demands for additional public expenditure to stimulate the economy.

He told industrialists, trade unionists and fellow ministers at the monthly meeting of the National Economic Development Council that there would be no more money from the exchequer to meet demands for extra funds to repair and maintain the crumbling national estate of roads, schools, hospitals and other infrastructure.

The Education Secretary, Sir Keith Joseph, had earlier put the backlog of essential repairs and maintenance to schools at £1.7 billion.

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Seven convicted in 'racism' trial

By Paul Keel
and Susan Tiribett

Four Asians and three whites were found guilty at the Old Bailey yesterday of charges arising out of a racial clash in Newham last year which was the climax of a day of inter-communal tension in the east London borough.

The two groups fought outside a Newham public house in April, 1984, following a series of incidents in which young Asians and whites had sought revenge on each other for alleged attacks.

After more than 13 hours' deliberation, the jury of nine whites, two West Indians and a Sikh found four members of

the so-called Newham Seven, guilty of affray.

They are: Farvais Khan, 17, and his brother Zafer, 18, both of East Avenue, Forest Gate; Mohammed Hanif, 18, of Wanlip Road, Plaistow; and Bahadur Khan, 22, of Shrewsbury Road, Forest Gate.

They were cleared of conspiring to damage property and possessing offensive weapons.

Roy Lellow, aged 26, of Carlton Terrace, East Ham, his brother Robert, aged 21, of Shaftesbury Road, Forest Gate, and Stuart Young, aged 22, of Dickens Road, East Ham, were convicted of common assault.

Three other Asian defendants in the seven-week trial,

Rather Caudri, aged 19, Amjad Ali, aged 21, and Jothi Rajappan, aged 17, were cleared of all charges. They left the court to loud cheers from demonstrators.

Reserving judgement on the four Asians Judge Denison, QC, called for social reports to consider their suitability for community service orders.

Fining the three whites £100 each, the judge said: "I accept that all three of you acted out of character, in a loss of temper in circumstances that were perhaps understandable."

During the trial the prosecution had a group of some 50 Asians had marched on the

Duke of Edinburgh public house in Newham following a series of attacks and counterattacks on Asians and whites in the area.

The incidents led to the formation of a vociferous and active "Newham Seven Defence Committee." Its members demonstrated almost daily outside the Old Bailey, chanting: "Self-defence is the only way" and asserting that the Asian defendants were innocent of anything other than protecting their community from racist attacks.

Commander Eddie Jones, the head of K district which covers Newham, last night commented on the outcome of the case. He said: "The police

performance in dealing with racial incidents means that the residents of Newham do not need to take the law into their own hands.

"The police will enforce the law with fairness and firmness to all parties, irrespective of race and colour. The number of instances where groups take the law into their own hands in this locality is minimal."

In Newham, where 40 per cent of the population is black, 96 racial incidents were reported in 1983 and 146 last year. In the first six months of this year 88 incidents were reported.

Figures for racial assaults were 67 in 1983, 88 last year and 27 so far this year.

Top ministers
rule against
Cabinet return
of ParkinsonBy James Naughtie,
Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister's urge to bring back Mr Cecil Parkinson to the Cabinet table is likely to be thwarted by an alliance of senior ministers and government backbenchers.

Mr Thatcher favours the rehabilitation of Mr Parkinson, who resigned as trade and industry secretary in 1983 after the disclosure of his affair with Miss Sara Keays, his former secretary.

Mr John Wakeham, the Chief Whip, and other senior government figures, are thought to be hostile to Mr Parkinson's return.

The conclusion is that Mr Parkinson, although still a popular figure with many of his former colleagues, is unlikely to return.

The argument over his future is one of the main elements in the preliminary discussion about the ministerial reshuffle expected early in September. The number of changes at Cabinet level is expected to be small, with only Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, and Mr Peter Rees, the Treasury Secretary, expected to be removed.

Mr John Gummer, the party chairman, is still expected to be moved to a departmental post, but the automatic transfer of Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary, to party chairman is no longer assumed by colleagues, although Mr Tebbit is known to be keen.

Other names being canvassed for the post include Mr Kenneth Baker, the local gov-

ernment minister, though his ideological background contrasts sharply with Mrs Thatcher's, and Mr George Younger, the Scottish Secretary, whose tenure of a Scottish seat is not regarded as a bar to the chairmanship.

For the chief secretary's post it is believed that the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, is arguing strongly for Mr John Moore, the financial secretary. This is being opposed by other ministers.

The Prime Minister has not yet begun to draw up detailed plans for the reshuffle, but before she leaves for her holiday in August she will have a list of the ministers favoured for promotion and will have canvassed carefully the views of her senior colleagues.

As things stand, the advice she is receiving suggests a limited reshuffle at Cabinet level but a considerable number of changes among other ministers, paving the way for a second phase next year to take the Government through to the general election.

Colin Brown writes: Mr Alan Beith, yesterday emerged as the favourite for the post of deputy leader of the Liberal Party, which is being considered by its leader, Mr David Steel, as part of his frontbench reshuffle.

Mr Steel and his supporters strongly opposed the creation of a deputy leader when it was put to the party rank and file at the Harrogate assembly two years ago by Mr Cyril Smith. But it was being stressed yesterday that, unlike Mr Smith's proposed post, the deputy would merely act in Mr Steel's absence as head of the Parliamentary Liberal Party.

Parliament, page 25

Convoy
'scruffs'
escape
eviction

By Martin Wainwright

THE LAW came to the rescue of the Stonehenge peace convoy yesterday when a judge refused to allow the eviction of Dick Turpin, Mickey Mouse and other anti-nuclear protesters from Durrant.

He criticised Devon County Council for bringing an action which might allow the removal of almost anyone—provided they were scruffy—from anywhere within the national park.

The decision at Torquay County Court was a welcome change for the travellers, who are camping at Spitwick Common on Dartmoor before heading for the annual Elephant Fair at St Germans in Cornwall.

The convoy is about half way through a summer programme to rival the London season, with a yoga camp on Anglesey and a magic mushroom picnic near Bedford still to come.

Mr Roger Gash, county solicitor for Devon, told the court before the hearing that the council had been disrupting the peace of life in the Spitwick Common area. He applied for an injunction against Messrs Mouse, Turpin and several hundred others, banning them from all common land in Devon.

"They have broken every law, by defacing things like 'hiding' in the river Dart and burning dead dogs in council litter bins," he said.

Later yesterday the judge of Spitwick Common, Mr Jack Simpson, began proceedings to apply for a High Court injunction to remove the convoy members from his land.

The council was outraged in the action by the judge, earlier this year, when the High Court allowed injunctions forbidding access to Stonehenge to 33 individuals, some of whom proved later to be non-existent, animals or dead.

Judge Neville asked: "How can you expect me to grant blanket orders against unknown people who call themselves scruffs like Dick Turpin, and Mickey Mouse, and refuse to reveal their true identities?"

"Does that mean that I would be expected to send to prison every scruffy-looking person you brought here who had set foot on Dartmoor?"

The judge adjourned the hearing to give the council time to name specific defendants and specific places from which they should be banned. But Mr Gash said: "Identifying these people en masse would be almost impossible."

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Notts miners must ballot

Continued from page one

the undertaking committed the area union not to change its rules without a ballot, and that under the existing rules the area union was not only a member of the national union, but was also subject to its authority. Any breach of the area union rules would lead to further court action.

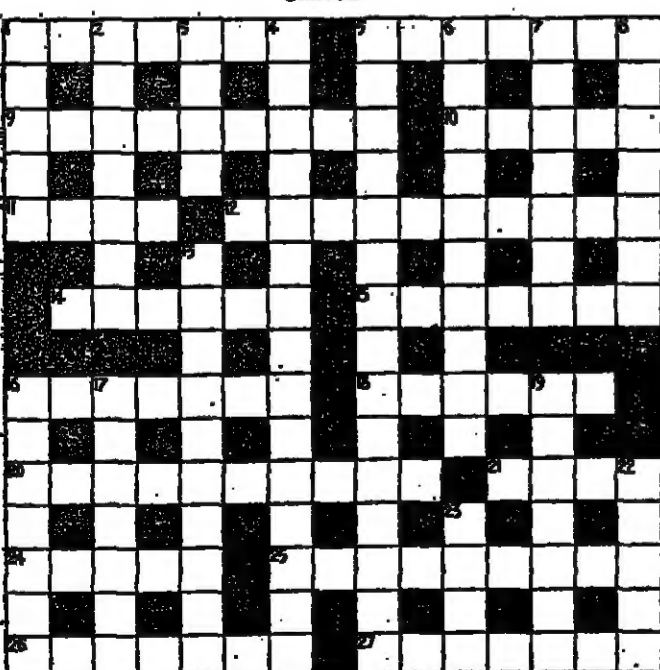
However, at the December meeting of the Nottinghamshire area council which inserted the rule requiring a two-thirds membership majority for rule changes, the council first passed a series of rule changes making itself more independent, if not autonomous, from the national union.

On the day before the meeting the national union unsuccessfully sought a High Court injunction preventing the proposed rule changes on the grounds that they were incompatible with membership of the national union.

This means that the area union can still effectively force many of the national union's instructions. However, the Nottinghamshire leaders were clearly thrown yesterday by the ballot requirement, which will give Mr Arthur Scargill's supporters a fresh opportunity to campaign against secession.

GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 17,285

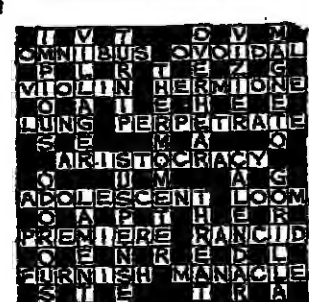
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ACROSS

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- 5 He lingers to see convict vehicle round (7).
- 9 The point of having half an inner tube? (9).
- 10 Minor risks taken to find hidden flower (5).
- 11 Distance vehicle travels in reverse (4).
- 12 Think again about girl's dive performance (10).
- 14 Healthier type of workman (6).
- 15 Quantities of pain-killers (7).
- 16 Decidedly flashy from fliers' angle (7).
- 18 Prepared to sail with a poet in love (6).

CROSSWORD SOLUTION 17,284



SOLUTION tomorrow

Hopes rise for black box after recovery of crash plane's cockpit voice recorder

From Paul Johnson
in Cork

The recovery of the cockpit voice recorder yesterday was the first real breakthrough in the inquiry into last month's Air India Boeing 747 disaster off the coast of Ireland.

The recorder, the size of a shoe box, could reveal why the aircraft plunged 31,000 feet into the sea without issuing any distress signals. Killing all 329 people on board. It was found more than a mile below the surface. Its recovery is being hailed as a major technical achievement by all those connected with the search.

The recorder was located and then recovered by a robot submersible, a Scarab, working from a French vessel, the Leon Theremin.

A search of 200 square miles of the sea bed had been nar-

rowed down to an area of several hundred square yards 90 miles off the coast of Kerry.

The Scarab took two hours to sink to 6,700ft on the sea bed. On its third dive it picked up a radio signal on its sonar from a range of between 300 and 400 metres.

It was manoeuvred into position to a point where its TV cameras could picture the equipment, which was attached to a small piece of wreckage. The voice recorder was then gripped by the Scarab's pincer-like grabs and hauled to the surface by cable.

Indian officials in Cork said the box would probably stay on board the search ship while the search for the "black box" flight recorder continues.

There are now high hopes that the black box can be sim-

ilarly recovered, partly because the two items are bolted on to the aircraft next to each other in the rear of the fuselage.

The voice recorder and the black box, if found, are expected to be sent to India for lengthy technical examination.

The cockpit voice recorder will yield information unless it was shut off immediately by a complete loss of electrical power.

It picks up the conversations of the pilot, co-pilot and flight engineer, as well as general flight deck noise. An instrument called a Spectograph will separate the sounds.

If the machine was working when disaster struck, experts will be able to identify eight separate aural warning signals relating to specific instrument warnings. If the aircraft lost compression rapidly, or even

gradually, that will register on the cockpit voice recorder.

Mr William Tench, former chief inspector of the Accident Investigation Unit, Department of Trade, said yesterday that the recovery was at least as important as that of the black box which would show the Boeing's instrument settings.

A spokesman for the British company, Cable and Wireless, which has a team of engineers operating the Scarab, said the robot had discovered two more pieces of wreckage which had to be identified.

Despite all the speculation that a bomb caused the disaster, investigators have yet to find any supporting evidence.

None of the 131 bodies recovered had burns and the few pieces of wreckage tested have not revealed signs of a bomb.

THE WEATHER

Mainly dry,
some sun

A DEPRESSION will develop to the northwest of Scotland and move northeast near northern Scotland, where the associated cold front moving southeast across Britain during the day.

Temperatures will range from a little below normal in the North to near normal in the brighter south-eastern districts.

London, SE England, East Anglia, Cent S England, Midlands: Rainy, cloudy but mainly dry, with a little sun. High 19 to 21C, low 12 to 14C. Wind S to SE, 10 to 15 mph. A little below normal. Max 19 to 21C, min 12 to 14C.

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Rainy, cloudy but mainly dry, with a little sun. High 19 to 21C, low 12 to 14C. Wind S to SE, 10 to 15 mph. A little below normal. Max 19 to 21C, min 12 to 14C.

Wales, NW England, Lancashire, Yorkshire, NW England, NW Scotland: Rainy, cloudy but mainly dry, with a little sun. High 19 to 21C, low 12 to 14C. Wind S to SE, 10 to 15 mph. A little below normal. Max 19 to 21C, min 12 to 14C.

NE Scotland, NW Scotland: Rainy, cloudy but mainly dry, with a little sun. High 19 to 21C, low 12 to 14C. Wind S to SE, 10 to 15 mph. A little below normal. Max 19 to 21C, min 12 to 14C.